

**中台山太谷精舍 Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale**

1031 N Fair Oaks Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94089 • (408)747-1099 • Fax:(408)747-1098

August 2, 2005

Dear Jamie,

To date, we have collected over 100 support letters from our Zen Center participants. We have hand-delivered 24 of the letters to your office on July 15. Enclosed please find the remainders. Some have also sent their support letters directly to the Planning Commission.

The voices in these letters reflect the cross-section and diverse populations we serve. Enclosed please find the original letters and a log sheet. **To facilitate your review, we have lifted quotes from some of these letters. Please see the attached table (3 pages.)** We greatly appreciate if you would include this table of quotes in your package to the Planning Commission.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 408-747-1099 or email Sunnyvale@ctzen.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Venerable Jian Hu
Abbot and Founder
Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

**QUOTES FROM SOME OF THE OVER 100 SUPPORT LETTERS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION
FOR THE GRANTING OF A USE PERMIT TO THE CHUNG TAI ZEN CENTER OF SUNNYVALE
AT THE 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE LOCATION**

Harold Barclay, President H-Square Corporation 1033 N Fair Oaks Ave, Sunnyvale (Existing neighbor of the Zen Center)	"About 2 years ago my landlord asked if I had any objections to having a Zen Buddhist Center move into a portion of the building I rent. At first I was skeptical ...but I was surprised that Ven. Jian Hu was a doctor of computer science and graduate from UC San Diego and impressed with his knowledge of the high tech industry... Time has proven that my assessment was correct. The members of the Zen Center are considerate and courteous. Most of their activities occur in the evenings and on weekends, so they do not conflict with my business. Even so they notify us of special events in case we need parking during off-hours. Their services and meditation classes are not noisy and do not disturb us. I have since attended several meditation classes and met the ...students (who) are made up of local residents of all colors, creeds and ages, from college students and tech workers to a college president."
Dr. Wendy Abraham, Associate Director Stanford Center for Buddhist Studies Stanford University	"Ever since the Zen Center opened (in Sunnyvale) in 2004, it has striven to make important connections with key Bay Area academic institutions and other organizations. ... Stanford University has been privileged to have been connected to the Chung Tai Zen Center in Sunnyvale since its inception... we are planning a special series of regular monthly talks and meditation sessions lead by Ven. Jian Hu during 2005-06...and Ven. Jian Hu has opened his Zen Center to special meditation training sessions for members of Alcoholics Anonymous from the Palo Alto area near Stanford to learn from a Master how to control thoughts and behavior patterns which in the past have proven destructive."
Dr. Frank Chong, President Mission College Santa Clara	"...I have met with several members of the Zen Center and have found them to be responsible, thoughtful, and considerate. We are currently in the process of arranging for a lecture by Master Jian Hu on Buddhism at Mission College ... I am also a regular participant in their classes. Throughout my experience, I have found the Zen Center to be of great service to the community. They were very active in providing disaster relief for the (tsunami) victims in Thailand ... the proposed move will allow the Center to serve more residents..."
Dan Eaton, Co-Chair US China People's Friendship Association South Bay Chapter and Resident of Sunnyvale	"As a Sunnyvale citizen of 28 years I give my support to grant(ing) the Zen Center the use permit at the 750 East Arques Ave. I invited Jian Hu Shifu to speak at one of our recent monthly meetings. The talk about Buddhism and meditation encouraged my friend, Shirley Penman, also a Sunnyvale citizen, and myself, to attend the meditation class...The Zen Center attracts a very culturally diverse cross-section of people. I have met a college president, a medical doctor, a psychologist, educators, computer professionals, artists, housewives, and more. The class grows as the weeks pass. The Center has moved out to the community and is meeting and developing a growing interest and need."

Eric Hansotte 664 Ahwanee Terrance Sunnyvale, CA	"I have been a resident and homeowner of Sunnyvale for almost 10 years and have been a supporter of the Zen Center since I discovered it last spring when the Mercury News highlighted the center in their section on Religion ...In addition (to attending classes), I have attended lectures, fund-raisers, and cultural celebrations there, all of which have been presented with professionalism and respect for all attendees. I have found the center to be a positive and inspirational addition to this area of Sunnyvale...and thankful that the area on Arques meets their needs for continued growth, as I believe it will benefit the community as a whole."
Parivash Khanjani 630 West Remington Drive Sunnyvale, CA	"I am a retired instructor of Biology from the University of Shiraz in Iran, and my husband, Zia Hamadani, is a specialist physician from Iran. Six years ago, the two of us with our children immigrated to the U.S., and we are now residing in Sunnyvale...We had many conflicts and suffering due to the stressful life we had in Iran and 8 years of bombs and the years of terrible war between Iran and Iraq...All these years, my husband and I have been searching for a way to solve those traumatic effects and improve the quality of our lives. Finally about a year ago, we (read about) the newly established Zen Center in Sunnyvale ...Now, I have been going to the classes, I have already witnessed a lot of changes in my family...Now I feel we are on the right track to a better life. My children are all going to universities...The biggest thanks goes to Master Jian Hu, the Abbot and all the Dears there."
Natalia Mislavsky, Ph.D Researcher, Dept. of Psychology Stanford University	"The Zen Center has prominently established itself as a place where local people can study and practice meditation regardless of their religious beliefs or affiliation. As a researcher trained in experimental psychology at Stanford University, I can attest to the rapid increase in scientific study of meditation. An increasing number of physiological studies indicate that meditation provides stable improvement in cardiovascular parameters by lowering the heart rate more significantly than the ordinary rest. Other studies show that the regular meditation practice diminishes adverse effects of stress and overtime results in strengthening of the immune and endocrine systems. It was also found that meditation contributes to the improvement of the college GPA ...Ven. Jian Hu, a PhD in Computer Science from UC San Diego, provides unique teaching of the highest caliber. It is no surprise that Shifu's teaching attracted many local scientists and engineers and it is hard to find a more appropriate teacher to the Silicon Valley population—we are very fortunate!"
Hailen Mak, MD, MPH, Clinical Assistant Professor, Allergy and Immunology Dept. of Pediatrics, Stanford University	"The Zen Center is more than a place for the community to learn and to practice the Buddhist Dharma. It is the place where Ven. Jian Hu, Abbot of the Center, simply but profoundly applies, in practical ways, the principles of the Buddhist teaching to our daily living in the Silicon Valley. As a physician and teacher, what I have learned at the Zen Center have been passed on to my patients, interns, and students. I hope they too will have the opportunity to come to the Zen Center in Sunnyvale and benefit from its superb programs and invaluable services."

Rev. Brian Stein-Webber, Executive Director Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County Walnut Creek	"I have known the Ven. Jian Hu and this religious organization for nearly five years, and have found them to be extraordinarily congenial and willing to partner with the wider religious community ... You could not hope for a more engaged, helpful and welcoming religious group to be in your community. I envy you this opportunity
William G. Holliday, PhD, D.Min, Senior Minister, Hillcrest Congregational Church United Church of Christ, Pleasant Hill, CA	"I have known the Ven. Jian Hu for a number of years. We began our friendship when he was the abbot of Buddha Gate Monastery in Lafayette. At that time, we did a series of Buddhist-Christian dialogues for the churches in our community and worked together on the Interfaith Council... You could not have a finer neighbor than Master Jian Hu and the religious community that he leads. As a matter of fact, these people could only be an asset to the neighborhood."
Dr. Kevin Cheung, Dentist 714 Webster Street Oakland, CA	"All throughout my adult life, my interest leads me to take a large variety of philosophy and religious courses at many places. I can say that Ven. Jian Hu is by far my best teacher. He makes difficult concepts digestible to those without background; his elucidations are spellbinding. The Zen Center is such a tremendous asset to the community. By coming all the way from Oakland to the Zen Center in Sunnyvale, I am delighted to discover and patronize a number of local businesses such as restaurants, markets, auto dealership, gas stations, etc."
Wendy Lee-Yu, Retired Licensed Clinical Social Worker 886 Longfellow Drive, Fremont	"People like me long for finding ways to decompress the stress that seemed to surround us no matter what we do or where we go. As a retired mental health professional I thought I was well trained with life strategies and skills. When I finally faced by personal challenge of helping my son who was diagnosed with a form of autism, I was at the lowest point of my life. I found myself benefiting a great deal from the Center's meditation classes and spiritual lectures. Most significantly, my son's interpersonal skills and social awareness have improved a great deal through group activities and volunteering."
Dean E. Linebarger, Program Manager County of Santa Clara	"I have attended classes at the Zen Center since its opening in March 2004. This has been a very powerful and meaningful experience that has lead to fundamental and very positive changes in my religious and philosophical views as well as my moral conduct, compassion and tolerance towards others...As someone with a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning and has worked in County government and been exposed to facility planning and decisions for almost 30 years, I am certain of the very significant overall benefits of the Zen Center to the surrounding community and the public at large."
Lars Graefe Director of Business Development 5 Results Way, Cupertino	"In a time of increased fear and anxiety both from international developments as well as increasing pressure from work, is essential to the mental and spiritual health of a community to find refuge in religious institutions like the Zen Center. My fiancée and I just went through a time of personal loss and some of the simple things that we have learned at the Zen Center have enriched our lives and the lives of our loved ones."
Cynthia Chang, President Asian Pacific Islanders School Board Members Association of CA	"One goal I identified for the Association is to help our students to have a global perspective: to understand appreciate other cultures and make the world a better place for everyone. Chung Tai Zen Center has provided the community with a lot of wonderful programs and made great impact and positive influence in the City of Sunnyvale."

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Letters of Support – Log Sheet

Letters of Support for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
File No: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale

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Letter No.	NAME	CITY
Submitted 7/15/05		
1	Harold Barclay	Sunnyvale
2	Wendy Abraham	Stanford
3	Frank Chong	Santa Clara
4	Rev. Brian Stein-Webber	Walnut Creek
5	Cynthia Chang	Saratoga
6	Mun Yip	San Francisco
7	Dana Eaton	Sunnyvale
8	Eric Hansotte	Sunnyvale
9	Hailen Mak	Palo Alto
10	Parivash Khanjani	Sunnyvale
11	Kevin Shey	San Francisco
12	Andrey Khilko & Natalia Mislavsky	Redwood City
13	Kevin Cheung	Oakland
14	Mike Parker	Mountain View
15	Maria Mustonen	San Jose
16	Dean Linebarger	Santa Clara
17	Michael Hsieh	Saratoga
18	Jean Loo	Sunnyvale
19	Michael Yu	Fremont
20	Wendy Lee-Yu	Fremont
21	Susan Riman	Mountain View
22	Bridget Gilman	San Jose
23	Kay Chan	Los Altos Hills
24	Jim Kelly	San Jose
Submitted 8/3/05		
25	Moui Tran	Sunnyvale
26	Rachel Liu	Sunnyvale
27	Hui Liang	Sunnyvale
28	Rita & Burce Wang	Sunnyvale
29	Shu-Li (Selina) Chang	Sunnyvale
30	Amy Loo	Sunnyvale
31	Lisa (Luna) DeCurtis	Sunnyvale
32	Lisa Lethin	Sunnyvale
33	John Houston	Sunnyvale
34	Chu Lee	Sunnyvale
35	Elizabeth C. Kao	Sunnyvale
36	Eng Tan	Sunnyvale
37	Hsiu Chi Lin	Sunnyvale
38	Jason Murray	Sunnyvale

Letters of Support for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
File No: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale

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39	Lam-Tai Wong	Sunnyvale
40	Li Cheng Chang	Sunnyvale
41	Richard Y. Kao	Sunnyvale
42	Winnie Y. Kao	Sunnyvale
43	Chau Lam	Sunnyvale
44	Chihyuan Yang & family	Sunnyvale
45	David Weekes	Mountain View
46	Eleanor Pearson	Mountain View
47	Jessica Tong	San Jose
48	Lai-Ching Chu	San Jose
49	Melissa Adams	San Jose
50	Teresa Lee	San Jose
51	Alice Sun	San Jose
52	Alice Chung	San Jose
53	Andy Huang	San Jose
54	Anh Wong	San Jose
55	Anny Tran	San Jose
56	Annie Huang	San Jose
57	Christina Wai	San Jose
58	Connie Yim	San Jose
59	Hansel Chung	San Jose
60	Boi Khong	San Jose
61	Caitlin Au	San Jose
62	Sam Chen, Arlene Leung	San Jose
63	Yuan-Mei Wang	San Jose
64	Merg/Chiew SodHwa	Santa Clara
80	Justin Juswandi	Fremont
81	Janice Chiu	Fremont
82	Shuli Chin	Fremont
83	Wendy Wei	Fremont
84	Edward Barragan	Milpitas
85	Gloria Waiman Fung	Milpitas
86	Manchuen Dino Tang	Milpitas
65	Yin Fan Wong	Campbell
66	Lay-Huan Ong	Cupertino
67	Amy Tseng	Cupertino
68	Binfu & Chunchen Chuang	Cupertino
69	Catherine Yalan Hsu	Cupertino
70	Howard Tseng	Cupertino
71	Sophie Lee	Cupertino
72	Lars Graefe	Cupertino

Letters of Support for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
File No: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue, Sunnyvale

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73	Karen Chan	Los Gatos
74	Shelley Smyers	Los Gatos
75	David Yin	Saratoga
76	Grace Wu	Saratoga
77	Mei-Ying Chang	Saratoga
78	Ning Fong	Saratoga
79	Theresa Yang	Saratoga
87	Jennifer Lee	Foster City
88	Natalia Mislavsky	Stanford
89	Gordon Chan	Los Altos
90	Chien-Pei Tsai	Palo Alto
91	Lu Yen Tin	Palo Alto
92	Maydree Laidley	San Mateo
93	Thomas J. Laidley	San Mateo
94	Marowen Ng	Stanford
95	Louise Wong	San Francisco
96	Mark W.P. Liao	San Francisco
97	Darlene Cioffi-Pangilla	East Bay
98	Vicky Cheung	EB Alameda
99	Rubee Chang	EB Castro Valle
100	Helen & Johnny Chen	EB Hayward
101	Doraya Goeppert	EB Lafayette
102	Suzanne Mittica	EB Pleasant Hill
103	Damon Manni	EB San Ramon
104	William G. Holliday	EB Pleasant Hill



STANFORD CENTER FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

MAIN QUAD
BUILDING 70, RM 71E
STANFORD, CA 94305-2165

TEL/FAX: (650) 725-6025
E-MAIL: wabraham@stanford.edu
<http://www.stanford.edu/group/scbs>

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

July 12, 2005

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File No. 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to express the full support of the Stanford Center for Buddhist Studies for the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale to 750 E. Arques Avenue. Ever since the Zen Center opened in 2004, it has striven to make important connections with key Bay Area academic institutions and other organizations. The public outreach efforts of the Zen Center have served to strengthen and enhance other existing Buddhist-related programs in the area, going beyond involvement with only practitioners of Buddhism but rather, extending to individuals and programs which may be primarily academic in nature, such as the one at Stanford University, and other groups which are unrelated to Buddhism directly but which can benefit nonetheless from its teachings.

Stanford University has been privileged to have been connected to the Chung Tai Zen Center in Sunnyvale since its inception, and has benefited greatly in particular in the area of broadening its own contacts with other like-minded individuals and groups in the community which have been introduced to us through the Zen Center.

The Center for Buddhist Studies also has a "Buddhism in the Modern World" lecture series which highlights current Master practitioners of Buddhism throughout the world. Our inaugural lecture in 2004 was by Ven. Jian Hu, who heads the Chung Tai Zen Center. His talk alone brought in close to 300 members of the community to Stanford's campus, in a lecture that was not only extremely well received but precipitated demands for more programs with Ven. Jian Hu. As a result, we are planning on initiating a special series of regular monthly talks and meditation sessions led by him during 2005-06. He has been our key link to the Bay Area Buddhist community, and one we look forward to having for a long time to come.



Office of the President

July 13, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, Project File 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the Chung Tai Zen Center's application to the Commission.

As the President of Mission College, I have had the pleasure of working with the Chung Tai Zen Center for the past year.

In my efforts to outreach to the local community, I have met with several members of the Center and have found them to be responsible, thoughtful, and considerate. In fact, several members of the Zen Center attend Mission College. We are currently in the process of arranging for a lecture by Master Jien Hu on Buddhism at Mission College.

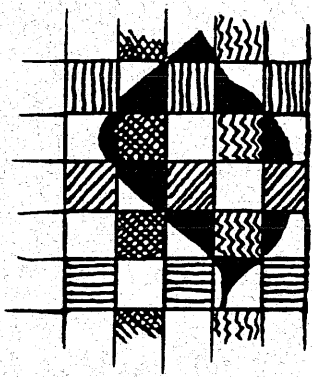
I am also a regular participant in their classes on Buddhism. Throughout my experience, I have found the Chung Tai Zen Center to be of great service to the community. They are very active in providing disaster relief for the recent victims in Thailand. Many of the participants are residents of Sunnyvale, Santa Clara and Cupertino.

The Chung Tai Zen Center's proposed move will allow the center to serve more residents who are interested in studying and practicing Buddhism. I strongly support their application and urge your approval.

Sincerely,

Frank Chong
President

FC/lka



Interfaith
Council of
Contra
Costa
County

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The Rev. Brian Stein-Webber, Executive Director

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No. 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Chung Tai Center of Sunnyvale, and their desire to relocate to a new office building, and to have it designated for religious assembly.

I have known the Ven. Jian Hu and this religious organization for nearly five years, and have found them to be extraordinarily congenial and willing to partner with the wider religious community. Their sister center, Buddha Gate of Lafayette, is virtually right down the street from us. While the Ven. Jian Hu and his fellow monks were here, we enjoyed wonderful fellowship and sharing of religious activities. You could not hope for a more engaged, helpful and welcoming religious group to be in your community. I envy you this opportunity.

The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County, of which I am the director, is over fifty years old and consists of over 100 member religious groups and congregations, including many of the oldest congregations in the county.

If you have any questions of me, I would be more than happy to speak with you personally.

Sincerely yours,

Brian Stein-Webber
Rev. Brian Stein-Webber

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No. 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My company, H-Square Corp. has been a resident business of Sunnyvale since 1975. We manufacture tools for the Semiconductor Industry. We have been at our present location for about seven years.

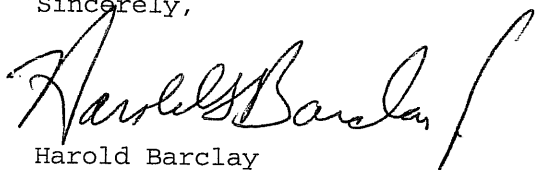
About two years ago my landlord, Junction Oaks Properties, San Jose, asked if I had any objections to having a Zen Buddhist Center move into a portion of the building I rent. At first I was skeptical, as I had no knowledge of Zen or Buddhism. So I asked to be allowed to interview the leaders of the Zen Gate Center. I met with Venerable Jian Hu, the senior Monk. I was surprised that he was a doctor of computer science and graduate of U. C. San Diego and impressed with his knowledge of the high tech industry. After the meeting I decided to approve of the rental of a quarter of our to the Zen Gate Center.

Time has proven that my assessment was correct. The members of the Zen Gate Center are considerate and courteous. Most of their activities occur in the evenings and on weekends, so they do not conflict with my business. Even so they notify us of special events in case we need parking during off-hours. Their services and meditation classed are not noisy and do not disturb us.

I have since attended several meditation classes and met other Monks and volunteer staff members as well as students. The students are made up of local residents of all colors, creeds and ages, from college students and tech workers to a college president.

So I fully support the Zen Center's application to open a new center on Arques and believe it will be beneficial to the City of Sunnyvale to have an organization like this to settle here. I have also offered to come to the planning meeting, Aug. 8th to speak on the Center's behalf.

Sincerely,



Harold Barclay
President, H-Square Corp.
1033 N. Fair Oaks Ave.
Sunnyvale CA 94089
www.h-square.com

Cynthia Chang

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

July 13, 2005

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen Center to a larger location at 750 East Arques Avenue.

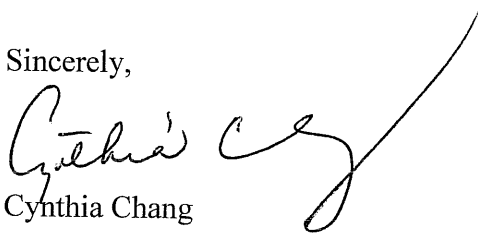
I came to United States 30 years ago and have lived in Bay area since 1984. I have been actively involved in various activities in the local community: Silicon Valley Chinese School Treasurer (1987-1988), Chinese Historical and Cultural Project (a replica Chinatown Building at San Jose Historical Museum) Treasurer (1988-1993), BSA T508 Committee Chair (1999-2005), School Board Member for Saratoga Union School District (1994-1998) and Los Gatos-Saratoga Joint Union High School District (1998-current), just to name a few. I am also President of Asian Pacific Islanders School Board Members Association (of CA) for 2004/2005.

Over the past two years, I have been serving as an Executive Board member of the Building Bridges (a Rotary-sponsored program, celebrating the diversity of cultures and religions) in Saratoga. Last year, we invited Venerable Jian Hu, the abbot of the Chung Tai Zen Center, to come speak at one of our religious talk events at the Saratoga Library, introducing Buddhism to the community. It was well received and he will give another presentation about Buddhism and Modern Science at Saratoga Library during the first week of October.

One goal I identified for the API School Board Members Association is to help our students to have a global perspective: to understand and appreciate other cultures and make the world a better place for everyone. Bay Area is blessed with the diversity of cultures and religions. Chung Tai Zen Center, under the leadership of Ven. Jian Hu, has provided the community (both adults and youths) with a lot of wonderful programs and made great impact and positive influence in the City of Sunnyvale.

Thank you for your dedication serving the community as the Planning Commissioners. Your kind consideration for approving the relocation of Chung Tai Zen Center is appreciated.

Sincerely,


Cynthia Chang

社 蓮 覺 大

TA KIOH BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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社址 : TEMPLE:
2328 Clement Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
Tel: (415) 668-1861

通訊處: MAIL:
2363 Van Ness Av. #401
San Francisco, CA 94109
Tel: (415) 775-2866

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number:2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

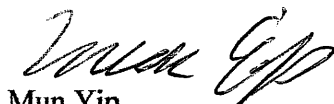
Dear Planning Commissioners:

Ta Kioh Buddhist Temple in San Francisco would like to recommend approval of granting a use permit for Chung Tai Zen Center for operation at the above location.

Ta Kioh Buddhist Temple is located at 2328 Clement Street, San Francisco, CA 94015. Besides providing various spiritual services to its 1500 members, Ta Kioh Buddhist Temple also operates a Chinese School for children age ranges from 5 to 17, current enrollment about 400 students. To accomplish the demand for quality bilingual (Chinese and English) Dharma teaching and spiritual activities to practitioners and students of all levels, Ta Kioh Buddhist Temple constantly call upon the masters of Chung Tai Zen Center for their services. Their professionalism and bilingual skill, and most importantly, their authority in Buddhist Dharma, provided our members and students the most comprehensive lectures and guidance, both educational and spiritual. Chung Tai Zen Center is a valuable addition to any multi-cultural community.

Your approval will benefit residents of the Sunnyvale communities. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to call me at 415-668-1861.

Sincerely,



Mun Yip
Director

July 1, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086 – 7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No.: 2005 – 0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:


As a Sunnyvale citizen of 28 years I give my support to the Planning Commission to grant the Chung Tai Zen Center the use permit at the 750 East Arques Avenue location.

I became aware of the Chung Tai Zen Center when the *Sunnyvale Sun* printed a very interesting and complimentary article about Jian Hu Shifu. After reading the article, as co-chair of the US China People's Friendship Association South Bay Chapter, I invited Jian Hu Shifu to speak at one of our recent monthly meetings. The shifu's talk about Buddhism and mediation encouraged my friend, Shirley Penman, also a Sunnyvale citizen, and myself, to attend the Chung Tai Zen Center's beginning mediation class.

The Chung Tai Center of Sunnyvale attracts a very culturally diverse cross-section of people interested in learning more about Buddhism and Zen meditation practice. At the Zen Center meditation class I have met a college president, a medical doctor, a psychologist, educators, computer professionals, artists, housewives, and more. It is meeting the interests and needs of a broad spectrum of interesting, active, and highly educated people. The class I am attending grows as the weeks pass. In a short time the Chung Tai Zen Center Sunnyvale Dharma has moved out to the community and is meeting and developing a growing interest and need.

City of Sunnyvale will benefit by giving a use permit to the Chung Tai Zen Center by making our city the center for the Chung Tai Zen Center on the Penninusa.

Sincerely,



Dana Eaton

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File # 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It was brought to my attention that the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is seeking a use permit for their new location on Arques Ave. I am writing this letter in support of their move and to encourage your consideration in handling their request.

I have been a resident and homeowner of Sunnyvale for almost 10 years and have been a supporter of the Zen Center since I discovered it last spring when the Mercury News highlighted the center in their section on Religion. After meeting the Venerable Jian Hu, and receiving a warm welcome and educational introduction to the center, I registered as a student and have been attending their Zen Buddhist classes since January. In addition, I have attended lectures, fund-raisers, and cultural celebrations there, all of which have been presented with professionalism and respect for all attendees.

I have found the center to be a positive and inspirational addition to this area of Sunnyvale and feel fortunate that I live very close to the current location on Fair Oaks. I plan to continue to attend the center weekly and am thankful that the area on Arques meets their needs for continued growth, as I believe it will benefit the community as a whole. If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me without hesitation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Eric Hansotte

Sunnyvale, CA 94085
408-





Lucile Salter Packard
Children's Hospital

STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

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July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in strong support for the relocation of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale to the Arques Avenue location. The Zen Center is more than a place for the community to learn and to practice the Buddhist Dharma. It is the place where venerable Jian Hu, Abbot of Zen Center of Sunnyvale, simply but profoundly applies, in practical ways, the principles of the Buddhist teaching to our daily living in the Silicon Valley.

As a physician and teacher, what I have learned at the Zen Center have been passed on to my patients, interns, and students. I hope that they too, will have the opportunity to come to the Zen Center in Sunnyvale and benefit from its superb programs and invaluable services.

Sincerely,

Hailen Mak, M.D., M.P.H.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Allergy and Immunology
Department of Pediatrics
Stanford University, School of Medicine

July 14, 2005

To: Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, Ca, 94086-7619

Re: Chang Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project file number 2005-0509
Project location EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners,

My name is Parivash Khanjani and I am a retired instructor of Biology from the University of Shiraz in Iran, and my husband, Zia Hamadani, is a specialist physician from Iran. Six years ago, the two of us with our children immigrated to the United States, and we are now residing in the city of Sunnyvale.

When six years ago we moved to the United States, we had many conflicts and suffering due to the stressful life we had in Iran and eight years of bombs and the years of terrible war between Iran and Iraq. We left Iran to find happiness here and to remove all those traumatic effects from lives of our children. Naturally and unfortunately upon our immigration, we faced additional problems. All these years, My husband and I have been searching for a way to solve those problems and to improve the quality of our lives. We read all kinds of psychological books to find what the meaning of life and happiness are, but we still were confused. Finally about a year ago, I came upon an article in a newspaper about the new established Zen Center in Sunnyvale. I had heard about meditation and Buddhism before and became curious about this new Center. I registered for meditation classes. Now, it has been about a year that my family and I have been going to the Center's classes, and I have already witnessed a lot of changes in my family. We have become calmer, happier, and more patient. Now, I feel we are on the right track to a better life. My children are all going to universities, they have become more concentrated and our relationships within the family have greatly improved. I wish I can be of some help to extend this center to be able to give services to more people in the same situation as me, who are in search of the meaning of true life and happiness.

The biggest thanks goes to Master Jian hu, the Abbot and all the Dears there

Sincerely,

Parivash Khanjani.

Sunnyvale, Ca , 94087



July 8, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

My name is Kevin Shey, I am writing to express my strongest support for the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen center to its potential new home at 750 East Arques Avenue.

Every week for the past many months, I have faithfully made an hour long journey during rush down traffic to the Chung Tai Zen center in order to attend Master Jian Hu's Zen Buddhism lectures. Even though my work and residency are located in San Francisco, I felt compelled to make every possible effort to attend the classes. My yearning (along with my 20 plus classmates') to learn from Master Jian Hu, emanated not from just mere intellectual curiosity. But rather, it sprang from the most profound desire to seek a teaching that ultimately will assist in finding purpose and serenity in my life, while providing a blue print for ways in becoming a more compassionate human being.

Chung Tai's abbot, Jian Hu, has tirelessly strived to meet this thirst for knowledge through his outstanding lectures. Having been educated at Harvard, I have had the good fortune of attending the lectures of some of the world's foremost thinkers. But I can truly say that none of these great thinkers have shown me the way to a more compassionate and righteous life, as Master Jian Hu's teachings have; and none of them has ever made any substantive impact on refining this crude and unpolished soul of mine as Master Jian Hu has.

In closing, if the goal of the commission is to promote the development of a wholesome citizenry and community, I could not think of a better way for the commission to contribute to this noble goal by allowing Chung Tai Zen center to continue on its mission at its new East Arques home. Moreover, if I may add that during my weekly trek to Chung Tai, I always purchase food and gas at one of the local establishments. I am certain that my classmates and I are contributing to the tax base of the city of Sunnyvale.

Best regards,
Kevin Shey

Kevin Shey

San Francisco, CA 94014

Drs. Natalia Mislavsky and Andrey Khilko

Redwood City, CA 94061

July 2, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale project, file number: 2005-0509.
Project location: 750 East Arques Avenue.

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

It is our honor to write to you in support of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. The Zen Center has prominently established itself as a place where local people can study and practice meditation regardless of their religious beliefs or affiliation.

The benefits of meditation are multifold. We would like to discuss our own experience as well as to refer to some relevant scientific information. There is strong scientific evidence that meditation practice has various positive psychological and physiological effects. An increasing number of physiological studies indicate that meditation provides stable improvement in cardiovascular parameters by lowering the heart rate more significantly so than the ordinary rest does. Other studies show that the regular meditation practice diminishes adverse effects of stress and over time results in strengthening of the immune and endocrine systems. It was also found that meditation contributes to the improvement of the college GPA.

Our personal meditation experience brought us lower levels of negative affect including the less aggressive driving style, better emotional balance, improved mental focus and concentration, and, thus, an enhanced ability to deal with our everyday stressors.

We believe that, although it is only beginning to gain recognition by the contemporary western society, the multifaceted value of meditation practice is of immense benefit to mental, physical and social wellbeing of its members and the society as a whole. We ask you to give your support to the Chung Tai Zen Meditation Center. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Andrey Khilko, Ph.D.



Natalia Mislavsky, Ph.D.

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

7-9-2005

ATTACHMENT I
Page 22 of 133

RE: In support of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File #2005-0509
Project location: 750 East Argues Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am a 51 year old dentist from Oakland. Since a little more than one year ago, I came at least twice every week to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale to attend classes in Buddhist ethics and theory; so far I have not missed a single class that is taught in English yet. All throughout my adult life, my interest leads me to take a large variety of philosophy and religious courses at many places. I can say that Venerable Jian Hu - the abbot of Zen Center of Sunnyvale, who teaches all the English classes there, is by far my best teacher, he makes difficult concepts digestible to those without background, his elucidations are spellbinding. I suggest anyone - whether they are interested in the subjects or not - to walk in any of Venerable Jian Hu's lectures and see for themselves. And all the classes are free; this Zen center is such a tremendous asset to the community. By coming all the way from Oakland to the Zen Center, I am delighted to discover and patronize a number of local business in Sunnyvale, like restaurants, markets, auto dealership, gas stations etc. I enjoy Sunnyvale, it is a long drive, I am mindful of not to contribute too much air pollution by driving a Honda Civic that gets 38 miles per gallon and commuting with my wife, and she becomes a calmer person after learning meditation at the Zen Center. Thankyou Sunnyvale!

Respectfully,

Kevin Cheung

Kevin Cheung

Oakland, CA 94607

(510) -----

To whom it may concern:

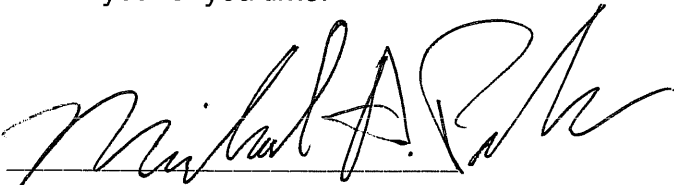
I have lived in the neighboring city of Mountain View for the past Five years. The majority of which, I have been working as a contractor for the NASA Ames Research Center as a systems administrator. About one year ago I was introduced to the Zen Center of Sunnyvale by a friend and have been very impressed with the teachings there. I believe that attending the Zen Center has helped me immensely with regards to conflict resolution, managing stress and anxiety.

Due to various reasons the Zen Center has needed to relocate to other parts of Sunnyvale. As I understand it, the pressing need to develop the land that the current center is in , to accommodate the growing number of people attending their meditation classes, and to find a permanent center that will not need to be moved again in the near future.

It is my sincere belief that the City of Sunnyvale should do everything in it's power to assist the building/renovation of this new center, because of the long term benefits that the City and neighboring cities will experience. The City should be flexible, balancing City Planning (where it applies to zoning) with the social, mental and spiritual benefits that the larger Zen Center will bring.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions that I could answer for you.

Thank you for you time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Parker", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Parker

Mountain View, CA 94043

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 95086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File #: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I'm writing to encourage you to approve the project noted above, planned by the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

I attend weekly classes at the Zen Center's current location on Fair Oaks Avenue, and can assure you that this organization is very respectful of others and would be an asset to the neighborhood in which they've requested to relocate.

The contribution which the Zen Center makes to communities in and around Sunnyvale is important. In this, my first exposure to Buddhism, I've found a life-changing experience in the Chung Tai Center's welcoming and calming atmosphere, free instruction, free lending library, patience, tolerance, and the absence of pressure to become "converted" to Buddhism. This tone is always present; in one-on-one conversations, when responding to challenging questions, and when compared to other religious beliefs.

This Zen Center is a rare asset to have in any community. In many ways Sunnyvale, Milpitas, Santa Clara, and San Jose serve the same population. As a San Jose resident, I cannot call upon you as my governmental representative to support the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale's request to move forward with relocating to the East Arques Avenue location. As a grateful neighbor, however, I ask that you allow this generous organization to continue to provide their services to people in the bay area from the proposed location in your city.

Sincerely,



Maria Mustonen

San Jose, CA 95116
408.2

cc: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Dean E. Linebarger

Santa Clara, CA 95050
Home: 408-

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center Project, File # 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to offer my strong support of the application for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale for the Sunnyvale Zen Center's new location on Arques Avenue. I have attended Zen Meditation and Sutra study classes at the Zen Center's current location continuously from it's opening in March 2004. This has been a very powerful and meaningful experience that has led to fundamental and very positive changes in my religious and philosophical views as well as my moral conduct, compassion and tolerance towards others. My experiences at the Zen Center cumulated in my formal conversion to Buddhism a few months ago.

The current Zen Center facility is to be demolished to accommodate new construction. Also, the current facility is no longer adequate to support the already large and growing numbers of individuals and families that visit the Center, attend classes and otherwise participate in the Zen services and events held at the Center. All of these activities and events not only benefit the individuals participating but also directly benefit the Sunnyvale community and South Bay Region. I feel that it is very important to ensure that others like myself continue to have the opportunity to learn and follow the teachings and timeless wisdom of the Buddhist religion and way of life.

I understand there may be a concern regarding the adequacy of the parking available at the Arques Avenue facility. It is important to realize that although this facility will have separate meditation, lecture and dining halls, these areas will not all be occupied or in use at the same time. Classes consist of approximately an hour of meditation followed by a short break and then a lecture of an hour or more. Class participants will move from the meditation hall to the lecture hall leaving the former vacant with the exception of perhaps one or two individuals straightening up the meditation mats and otherwise neatening the area. In the same manner the dining hall will be used for meals between classes, meditation sessions and services leaving the lecture and meditation halls largely vacant during meal and break times.

July 5, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This letter is written to show support for the establishment of the Zen Center in the City of Sunnyvale.

Sunnyvale has been a blooming city in the past several years; and the city is filling up with so many software/hardware technology firms and start-up companies. The pace is fast, and getting faster. All around town, new offices and construction sites are everywhere. Business meetings, conferences, and seminars are scheduled one after another in hotels and business centers. People living and working here are like a spinning wheel: each already moving so fast; but still trying to be efficient, effective and successful.

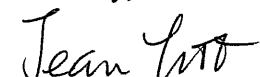
People need to unwind; they need to have some quiet time that belong to themselves, need to pull out once in a while and find out where are they going and what are they doing....

The Zen Center of Sunnyvale provides exactly the things we need here. I have been working in Silicon Valley for the past 10 years for several EDA Companies. I started with a company of 30 employees and it grew to almost 1000 before it merged with an even bigger company. Among the people that I worked with: R&D, Application engineers, Sales or Operational staffs, some became millionaires and got even busier schedules, while some were still turning around hoping their dreams will come true soon, and some just wanted life to slow down...

I joined the Zen Center in Fair Oaks Street a year ago, and it is the perfect place for some quiet-time with my busy schedule. I can enroll in some Zen Classes to find out about the meaning of life. I can also go there to meditate, which has improved my health immensely.

It is not easy to find a place like the Zen Center in such a busy and developed city; and I am so glad that there are so many people who feel the same way and are willing to support the building and maintenance of this Zen Center. We only wish that the establishment would be big enough to accommodate the growing population that needs its service. We also looking forward to the opening date of the new Zen Center.

Sincerely,


Jean Loo

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 11, 2005

Planning commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARGUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to support the construction of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale project. I have been learning and benefiting a lot from the Buddha's teachings and mediation techniques from their classes/services since the day Chung Tai Monastery in Taiwan has spread the Buddha Dharma to the United States about five years ago.

Being an engineer working for a cut-throat technology company in the silicon valley, the daily pressure of meeting deadlines and the strive to deliver the products on time can take a heavy toll on the body and in particular the health of one's mental wellness. I have seen co-workers, friends longing for and trying many different ways and techniques of relaxation, mediations in order to de-compress and face these types of stress in their daily lives.

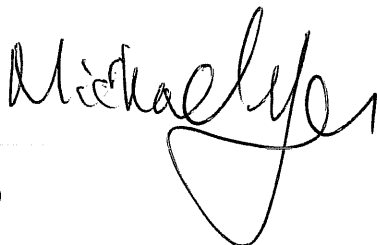
The tirelessness and dedication of all the "Shifu" in the Zen center really amaze me. Many of the mediation classes, Dharma lectures, services and workshops offered in the Zen center benefit a wide spectrum of people ranging from pre-teens to youth and adults. Through all these classes and lectures, I learn to be more focused at work, to have more understanding of my work environment, to be more harmonious with co-workers, friends, family members and most important of all, my mind stays more calm most of the time.

I also come to realize that all these activities are a necessity rather than a luxury in this fast-paced, high tech world. I am confident many people from different walks of life disregard of what profession they are in can find a refuge and benefit from these activities. Therefore I am fully supportive of the construction of Chung Tai Zen Center. Please give a favorable consideration in the above matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Yu, PhD

Fremont, CA 94539

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Yu", with a large, stylized loop at the bottom.

July 5th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

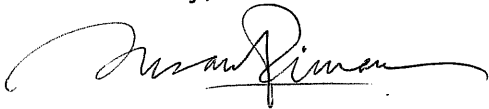
Dear Planning Commisioners:

An increasing number of people in the Silicon Valley are discovering and turning to Buddhism as a way to alleviate their life stresses and everyday problems. Since the Zen Center opened its doors in April 2004, it has become the center for the study of Buddhism and meditation that has benefited numerous members residing in the area, including myself.

We are very fortunate to have a place like the Zen Center that offers classes and events that help us practice this great philosophy and learn the teachings of the Dharma, through which we can find inner peace and discover the inherent wisdom, or "Buddha nature" within each of us, thereby turning each individual being into a compassionate, selfless and peace loving person that is so vital to make this world a better place to live in.

The new and larger Zen Center is so much needed to accommodate the rapidly growing number of disciples whose live have been positively transformed through this spiritual nourishment, thanks to the Zen Center!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Riman", with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Susan Riman

Mountain View, CA 94043

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to ask that you support the Chung Tai Zen Center's request for a use permit in order to allow the relocation of their facilities. As you likely know, the current location of the Zen Center is in the process of being converted to a residential area, consequently putting their space in jeopardy.

Though I have only attended the Zen Center for a few months, it was immediately apparent that the Center is invaluable component of the diversity of our community. Its classes and services are free and open to all; every week there are many new faces. The Center is not only a place of spirituality, but also a place of refuge and guidance that is wholly devoted to serving the people of the South Bay.

I hope that you will vote to permit the Zen Center's relocation and thus allow their great work to continue. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Bridget Gilman

San Jose, CA 95131

Date: July 7, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

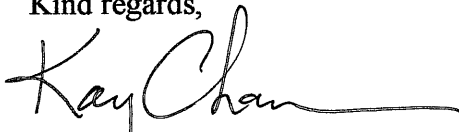
Dear Planning Commissioners,

I completely support the new home of the Chung Tai Zen Center on 750 East Arques Avenue in Sunnyvale, and urge the Planning Commission to approve the application for the use permit from the City of Sunnyvale.

In the past, the existing Zen Center on 1031 N Fair Oak Avenue in Sunnyvale has been proven to be a place where people of various ethnicities, cultures, and backgrounds come to learn Buddha's teachings and seek inner tranquility. The abbot of the Center, the Venerable Jian Hu, was educated in California and fully understands American culture. The Center has earned the trust, respect, and friendship of the neighbors in the current location, and it is the Center's commitment to protect the quality of environment and live in harmony with others.

I sincerely appreciate your time and consideration.

Kind regards,


Kay Chan

Los Altos Hills, CA 94022



25 June 2005

City of Sunnyvale
Planning Department

RE: The Zen Center Application at 750 Arques, Sunnyvale, California

Gentlemen,

I am writing as a congregant and as a student of Buddhism in support of the Zen Center's application for their new property.

Buddhism is tolerant, it is strongly ethical and it is concerned with compassion above all else. These are traits which cannot help but make the Zen Center a valued neighbor amidst houses of faith.

Buddhism can be seen as a philosophy and as such share the deepest values of the Judeo-Christian faiths. The strongest differentiator is that Buddhism states that each action has very long term consequences, over lifetimes.

I have seen the multi-cultural groupings of people from all walks at the present facility. I have listened to the message of compassion and tolerance for all beings and I have personally benefited from this gentle way.

For these reasons I urge you as a congregant, a registered Architect in Silicon Valley for more than twenty years and as a proud resident of this most diverse and tolerant place in the world, to support and approve this application.

It cannot but bring blessings to the neighborhood, the City and all beings, everywhere.

Sincerely,

Jim Kelly, AIA

July 5, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, California 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File # 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to express my deep support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. Their goal is to further the teachings of Buddhism to lead humans into spiritual discipline and enlightenment through meditation and lectures. Through these methods, the staff and directors of the Chung Tai Zen Center have made an overwhelming spiritual contribution to the city of Sunnyvale and deserve to be acknowledged for their efforts.

As you already know, the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale awaits approval of a use permit for their new location on 750 East Arques Avenue. Please acknowledge their efforts and spiritual achievements by approving their application of the use permit and allowing them to complete the project as soon as possible. This project will prove to be a great asset to the City of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,



Kin Yuen Watt
Devoted Member of the Chung Tai Zen Center

S.F. CA. 94121.

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Letters of Support – Sunnyvale

July 8, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Please grant the approval to have a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue.

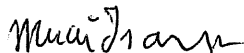
Benefits of Meditation

- Helping us to release stress, get rid of anxiety or sleep better during the night.
Specially we work in this high tech industry.
- Helping us to achieve a superior and true understanding the self and the way things are.
- Bring us discriminative wisdom; the wisdom that enables us to distinguish between different situations without making false judgments, without clinging to particular views, and without clinging to discrimination self. And this wisdom will also enable us to distinguish, classify, understand, and perceive without attachment.
- Being able to eradicate all the delusions and all the ignorance that we have.

The current Zen center is very closed to my house. I have been going there since it was opened. After I go there, I feel my life more happier, peaceful, focus, and be aware.

Please grant the approval. The Zen center will certainly benefit to the residents in Sunnyvale .

Sincerely,



Moui Tran

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 5, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am a Buddhist. I started to know about Buddhism when I was just 6 or 7 years old. The Dharma, the way of meditation, and the scripts or sutras really make me feel comfortable and relaxed. In this current Zen Center, I am joining the Meditation Class that really makes me happy in my life. During the lecture, Master will tell us how to understand or think some trivial things in our life, but it does affect our life, or makes us feel bitter or suffering. After each class, I felt really happy, because I will not take those unnecessary things seriously. I know that I could not expect more, because we actually have nothing in this world. When we die, we could not bring anything. Being happy and comfortable is the best way of living in this competitive and rapid-changing society. When I am tired of school or work, I am really willing to come to Zen Center to pure my mind and calm myself down, I think I need to check myself in this area that if I could think something in another way to make it properly. Zen Center is a place where I can calm myself, and feel really happy.

Therefore, I sincerely and strongly recommend that our new Zen Center located on Arques avenue could open and benefit for those whose situations are same as mine. Because of this religion, no matter we have service or ceremony; we will hold it quietly. This is our culture. We will not affect neighbors. I hope you could consider this and pass the permit for Zen Center so that we could have a peaceful place to go when we are tired of this busy society. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely,



Rachel Liu

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

07-07-05

ATTACHMENT 1 ²⁷
Page 39 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUAS AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It is with upmost sincerity that I ask you to grant a permit to Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. I have been going to the Zen center since its opening in March last year on Fair Oaks Ave. In nowadays fast-going and high-pressured daily lives, I found ^{peace} and tranquility through learning meditation and Buddhism there. I also came to make friends with a large group of easy-going and peaceable fellow participants under the leadership of the wise and compassionate Dharma masters. I truly believe that the Zen center will bring harmony and prosperity to the city of Sunnyvale. I feel fortunate to live nearby the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale and I look forward to participating and bringing friends to the meditation classes in its new location.

Thank you very much for your consideration!

Sincerely,

HUI LIANG

SUNNYVALE CA 94085

June 28, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

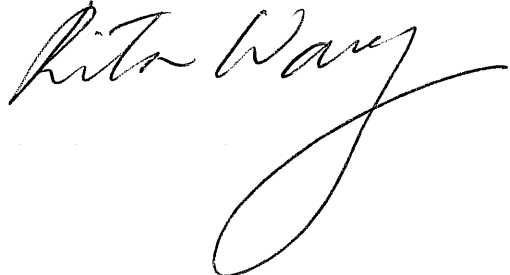
Dear Planning Commissioners,

We have been attending classes at Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale for one year. Our lives have been totally changed. Now we work hard, devote to the community, and are always willing to help people as much as we can. We don't do anything bad behind others, and we don't break law even when there are no people around. Therefore, we strongly support Chung Tai Zen Center in our neighborhood. We think everyone attends the class will be a good citizen of Sunnyvale, and we believe Chung Tai Zen Center shall promote the value of the City of Sunnyvale, as well as the entire community. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Rita Wang & Bruce Wang

Sunnyvale, CA 94085



July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As a resident of Sunnyvale, I write to strongly urge your approval of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509.

This unique area of Chung Tai Zen Center has taught and benefited many Silicon Valley residents including myself to live in positive and healthy lifestyles. Not only all their Zen classes are free, and all faiths are welcome.

The designation will preserve its business distinctive qualities, while allowing the area to continue to grow and evolve in this Hi-Tech society. The vital mix of business buildings and Chung Tai Zen Center which have chosen to locate here – with others bars, clubs, restaurants, retailers, hotels – can add and blend well in to a hectic and busy community.

By adding Chung Tai Zen Center, it will maintain Sunnyvale's special qualities to culture and allowed it to make a unique contribution to our city. Chung Tai Zen Center is certainly deserving of zoning status, and Sunnyvale can and will continue to prosper under this designation. I urge you to support the Chung Tai Zen Center project.

Sincerely,



Shu-Li (Selina) Chang

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

July 5, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

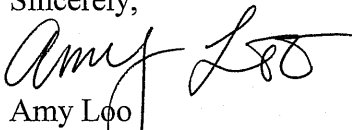
Currently I am a high school graduate planning to go to college in the fall. I am writing this letter to tell you how invaluable the Chung Tai Zen Center was to me during my high school career.

As everyone is well aware, the last few years of high school are incredibly stressful. With the numerous tests and applications to fill out many students I knew were on the verge of hysteria. However, because I was a frequent visitor to the Chung Tai Zen Center, my life was much more peaceful. I took several meditation classes, which relieved my tension aches and pains, and made me realize that wherever I would go, I would inevitably achieve happiness. In fact because of my comparative serenity, my friends nicknamed me "great grandmother owl".

The Chung Tai Zen Center helped me so much that I volunteered to organize a way for Master Jian Hu to visit my school and give a lecture, thereby getting more people interested in it, and thus they too would reap the numerous rewards the Zen Center can offer.

With the opening of the new Zen Center, although I personally will not be there to see its success, I am sure that many people will find its activities and classes to be worth their while.

Sincerely,


Amy Loo

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Ms. Lisa (Luna) DeCurtis, MA, CCC-SLP
Bilingual Speech-Language Pathologist

Clinic: 14969 Los Gatos/Almaden Rd., San Jose, CA 95032
Mail: P.O. Box 24551, San Jose, CA 95154

408-829-3678

lldecurtis@speakeasy.net

July 1, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File # 2005-0509
Project Location :750 East Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Chung Tai Zen Center in support of their request for a use permit from the city of Sunnyvale. I have utilized the center since last fall after I read an impressive article in the local Mercury Newspaper spotlighting the new Zen center. Shortly after, I began attending their lectures and signed up for the classes which I have attending since January of this year. Their center as become an integral part of my weekly schedule and spiritual practice.

I recently moved to Sunnyvale from San Jose and am now conveniently located a half a mile from the center. This has allowed me to take advantage of their numerous programs on a more regular basis. As a registered, and active, voter of local, state, and national elections, I wish to exercise my vote to have the Zen Center be approved for the use permit. I plan on continuing to make the center a part of my community and hope that the move will encourage other community members to do so as well. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at the address and/or phone number below.

Sincerely,


Lisa (Luna) DeCurtis

Sunnyvale, CA 94085

408-736-5450

July 13, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

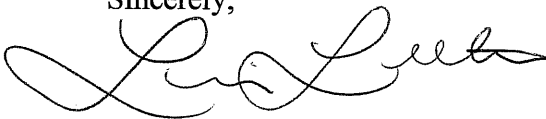
Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No. 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of Chung Tai Zen Center. They have made a valuable contribution to the community, and I feel fortunate as a Sunnyvale resident to have such an organization in my own town. They are quiet and considerate as a resident organization, they provide unique religious services not otherwise available, and they reach out to the community at large. The area to which they plan to move is already home to other community and religious organizations, and thus it seems like an appropriate and convenient location.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Lisa Lethin
Resident of Sunnyvale since 1986

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

John F. Houston

for _____
Suite 208
Sunnyvale, CA 94089
_____ net

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File # 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Ave

Subject: A Place of Quiet in Sunnyvale

Dear Planning Commissioners:

About a year ago I went out for my daily walk. My path took me up Borragas Ave. to Tasmin to Fair Oaks. As I got near my turn onto Weddell I noticed a new sign for the Chung Tai Zen Center and decided to stop in. It was a stop that would change my life.

Soon I was taking Zen Meditation Classes, participating in weekend events, and volunteering to help on projects for the Zen Center. This is not me, in another life I was a hermit on top of a mountain. Little did I know that karma was about to catch up with me.

At the beginning of September I was diagnosed with arterial heart blockage and was told I needed a triple bypass. Ordinarily I would have gone into a panic, but this time it was different. With the help of the Zen Masters and my new friends I found myself calm and happy. Happy it was found before a heart attack. Help was given to me in many forms, spiritual, morale and dietary were all provided.

I have lived in Sunnyvale for sixteen years and can say without a doubt, we all need the new Zen Center in Sunnyvale. It will be a place of quiet and spirituality in this pressure cooker that the Silicon Valley has become.

Sincerely,

John F. Houston

July 10, 2005

ATTACHMENT 134
Page 40 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arroyo Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As portrayed on May 8, 2004 issue of Mercury News (Religion section), our Dharma Master (Abbot of Zen Center, Venerable Jian-Hu Shi Fu) has dedicated his life to the spiritual teachings of Zen Buddhism for the past 12 years.

Being a devout Buddhist for almost 5 years, I'm deeply grateful for his life-transforming messages of spiritual pursuit of inner peace and understanding of true meaning of Enlightenment.

I firmly believe a larger newly proposed Zen Center will bring peace, harmony and tranquility to the neighborhood. Many Sunnyvale residents like me will be tremendously benefited from it.

Sincerely,
Chu Lee
Chu Lee

(408) 750-1111
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94087

July 9, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE


Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. I am a senior and will appreciate the establishment of such a center nearby for meditation.

I and other people who need such a place for improvement of both mental and physical health strongly advocate the approval and construction of said center at the site list above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval.

Sincerely,


Elizabeth C. Kao

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

8th July 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

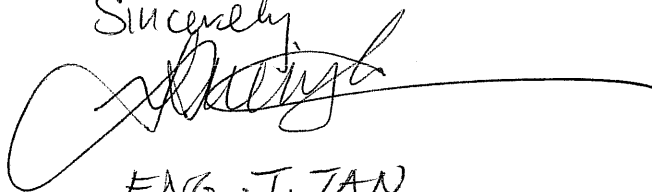
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File Number 2005-0509.
Project Location: 750 East Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commission,

The Zen Center is a place of calm and serenity
in the center of the hustle and bustle of Silicon Valley.
It is a place for reinvigorating the body and soul
and the new, larger center will offer better
services to the larger community.

I write this letter to implore you to approve
this application.

Sincerely,



ENG. T. TAN

SUNNYVALE,
CA 94087

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA94086-7619


RE : Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number : 2005-0509
Project Location : 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am one of the devotees of the above mentioned. I am looking forward to have the new location to continue our Buddhism studies with more friends from the neighborhood. Kindly grant us the permit to use the new location.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


HsiuChi Lin

Sunnyvale, CA94086

July 10, 2005


Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, Ca 94086

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project.
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I feel that the Chung Tai Zen Center is a valuable source for the community and I fully support the above-mentioned project, for it provides a supportive group and atmosphere for youth like myself, a student at De Anza College.

Please provide the needed support for the Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely, 

Jason Murray

Sunnyvale, Ca 94087

July 9, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. I am a senior of over 85 years old and need a center nearby for meditation to achieve spiritual enlightenment.

I and other people who desire such a place strongly advocate the approval and construction of said center at the site list above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval.

Sincerely,

Wong, Lam-Tai

Lam-Tai Wong

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 10, 2005

ATTACHMENT 1 ⁴⁰
Page 52 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arroyo Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been attending classes at the current Zen Center and personally benefited from the teachings of peace, tolerance and compassion for all sentient beings.

As a result, I am a better person, happier and wiser. Please grant the proposed New Zen Center ^{the use permit} thus allowing more people like me the opportunity to learn more about meditation on how to attain inner peace.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Li Cheng Chang
Li Cheng Chang

Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

July 8, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. I am a long time resident and will appreciate a center for such activity.

I am sure other people who are like minded will also strongly advocate the approval and construction of such a place at the site list above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval.

Sincerely,



Richard Y. Kao

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 8, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

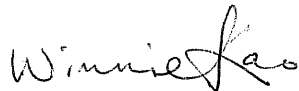
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing in support of having a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue. I am a long time resident and locally employed and will appreciate a center for such activity.

I strongly desire such a center, for it provides a site for people like me to utilize for the reduction of stresses and improve mental and physical health; therefore I strongly advocate the approval and construction of such a center at the site list above.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval.

Sincerely,



Winnie Y. Kao

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

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1
ATTACHMENT

Page

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of

133

July 11, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I support the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project.

My family has been going to the current Zen center since it was opened. After we go there, my family feels happier, peaceful, focus, and be aware. Our kids were taught the four tenets of Chung Tai "To our elders be respectful, To our juniors be kind, With all humanity be harmonious, In all endeavors be true". They adopt them and apply them right away. Therefore, I believe that the Zen center will definitely benefit to the residents in the city of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,



Chau Lam

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

July 7, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This letter is to support the approval of the project for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. We had been the citizens of Sunnyvale since 1997. Sunnyvale is a nice and convenient place to live in south bay area. Especially, Sunnyvale has Chung Tai Zen Center in its neighborhood. Zen Center does offer many charity works and complimentary Zen and Buddhism classes to all publics.

We strongly support our city to approve this building project. It really provides benefits to all citizens of Sunnyvale. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Chihyuan Yang and 4 family members

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Letters of Support – Mountain View San Jose,

Santa Clara, Fremont, Milpitas

July 7, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

In regards to: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509.
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing you this letter to lend my support to the Chung Tai Zen Center and to urge your approval of the project to relocate the Center to 750 East Arques Avenue in Sunnyvale.

I have only recently become involved with the Zen Center over the past 8 weeks. I am currently attending one of their beginning classes in Buddhism. I have found the class very informative and helpful to me personally. Everyone I have encountered at the Zen Center has been very kind and I believe having this type of organization in Sunnyvale can only be an asset to your city.

I ask for your full support of this project and hope you can see the benefit of having this organization as a part of your city.

Thank you again for your consideration of this project.

Sincerely,

David Weekes

David Weekes

29 June 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. The Zen Center is soon to be relocated to larger premises within the city of Sunnyvale. I am writing this letter to support the center and to communicate to you what an enormous benefit I believe the center to be to its surrounding community.

I have been living in the neighboring city of Mountain View for close to two years and have been going to meditation classes at the Zen Center in Sunnyvale since February 2005. During that time I have seen the Zen Center grow to its current capacity, and witnessed firsthand the emotional, spiritual and community benefits it offers.

I would encourage you to do everything in your power to make the relocation of the Zen Center a smooth one.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eleanor Pearson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eleanor Pearson

Mountain View, CA. 94043.
Ph. (650)

copy - already sent to city.

47

Jessica Tong

San Jose, CA 95131

ATTACHMENT 1

Page 66 of 133

June 22, 2005

City of Sunnyvale
Planning Commission
Attention: Jamie McCloud
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

Re: Zen Center of Sunnyvale New Facility Building Zoning Change

Dear Ms. McCloud,

I've been a student of Zen Center of Sunnyvale for the last 6-7 months. During this short time, I have gained a tremendous benefits and insights on living a healthier and happier life.

The masters in this Zen Center teach us the various methods of meditation. Through these meditation methods, I learn how to calm and control my mind, how to be self-aware of my body and mind as well as the environment. Now, my mind is so peaceful and clear that I'm able to be more effectively in managing everything, including any stress and obstacle. They also teach us be compassionate and selflessness to all sentient beings.

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to learn from the Zen Center. I hope more people will able to benefit from this meditation practice to gain wisdom and a peace of mind. Especially, in today's hi-tech stressful and demanding environment, we need more mental and spiritual practice places, such as, the Zen Center, to help improve the quality of lives for the residents in the city and surrounding the bay area.

I feel this is very special that The Zen Center is trying to expand its facility in the Sunnyvale, to help more local community residents and people around the bay area in meditation practice. More happy people live in the city of Sunnyvale, the better is the image of the city. I strongly wish that the city of Sunnyvale will take this great opportunity to keep this wonderful organization by allowing the change of the building zoning.

Yours truly,



Jessica Tong

7/11/05

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Locations: 750 East Arques Avenue

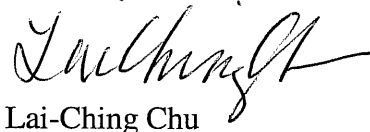
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I work as a Sr. Deferred Revenue Analyst in a company in Mountain View. I have found that having a Monastery in Sunnyvale is very convenient. Many times I go to the center for meditation during lunchtime or after work. The location in Sunnyvale has proven to be an ideal central location, because of it's easy access from such areas as Mountain View, Santa Clara, San Jose, Milpitas, Cupertino, Saratoga, Fremont and San Francisco.

The Zen practice of Buddhism applies to my outlook on life. The Shifu at the Zen Center has taught me to be less judgmental and more open to encounters that occur in day-to-day life. The Zen center also teaches the techniques used in meditation which has been an incredible way to relieve the stress and anxiety of my daily responsibilities.

Learning and practicing Buddhism has been a large part of my life the last few years. With a use permit at this location, many others and myself will have the opportunity to continue our progress in learning Buddhism.

Sincerely,



Lai-Ching Chu

San Jose, CA 95121

July 1, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Argues Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to ask that you favorably review the application for use permit by the Chung Tai Zen Center. The Center hopes to use the facility to continue its classes in the study of Buddhism and meditation and its community services available for residents of Sunnyvale and neighboring cities.

I have been attending classes on Wednesday evenings at the Zen Center in Sunnyvale on Fair Oaks since November of 2004. I have also been able to attend the Zen Center on the first Saturday of many months. The classes have been invaluable to me and have introduced me to the many services and businesses of the delightful city of Sunnyvale.

It would be most fortunate for the Zen Center to continue to provide its good work and educational and spiritual services in the Sunnyvale area. I hope that you can see the benefits of continuing to house the Chung Tai Zen Center in your community.

Sincerely,



Melissa Adams

San Jose, CA 95117-1607

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been attending classes and activities led by Master Jian Hu, Abbot of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, for the past 4 years. Through the classes and events I have gained a better understanding of meditation and Buddhism. As a result of these classes, my physical and mental health have greatly improved. I have gained a much more positive attitude and a great amount of confidence in my personal life. After experiencing such happiness, I decided to leave my career and dedicate myself to this organization and help it grow and further its good cause. The Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is in a growth stage and is currently in dire need of a permanent home to plant its roots. The number of participants for each event has been steadily increasing, so I believe the move to a bigger location to host our functions, charity events and classes is the correct decision.

Sincerely,



Teresa Lee

San Jose, CA 95132

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Date July 8th, 2005

RE : Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project location : 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to show my support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale in their process to apply for a use permit. Ever since their opening, I have attended classes and met many people there who have helped me become a better person and a better mom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alice Chung". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Alice Chung

San Jose, CA 95120

7/6/2005

ATTACHMENT ¹⁵²
Page 65 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing to support of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale's desired move to the new location as called out in Project File 2005-0509.

The Zen Center's lease at its current location will be running out soon and it appears unlikely that it will be able to be extended since the site has been rezoned and will probably be redeveloped for residential use.

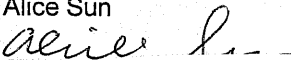
If the Center is unable to find a new home, the many services that it provides to Sunnyvale residents will be lost. These include Zen practices such as Sunday morning services, meditation sessions, and retreats. The Center also provides Buddhist Dharma teachings and Sutra lectures, Buddhist ceremonies, Buddhism workshops, and the highly regarded "Dharma for Teens" youth program.

One, a very significant advantage of the new location is that because it will have more and larger rooms, the Center would be able to hold larger classes, lectures, and other services and will be able to conduct a number of activities in parallel. The additional space would also allow the center to partner with other organizations in hosting joint community programs, something that hasn't been possible in the cramped single room at the current location.

Thank you for your consideration of the Zen Center's use permit application for the new location.

Sincerely,

Alice Sun



San Jose, CA 95134

July 2, 2005-7-2

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Chung Tai Zen Center really helps me a lot. Their Buddhism lesson really helps improve my meditation and breathe. Their funeral service is superb and recommended. The monks there are all well educated and bilingual. It is really a good asset to our community.

Sincerely,

Andy Huang

San Jose, CA , 95132

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andy Huang". The signature is written in dark ink and is located in the lower right portion of the page.

July 4, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I would like to send my support to Chung Tai Zen Center. Through its meditation class, I learn to handle stress. The lesson is very valuable to me, as to many other Bay Area residents, since stress is part of our lives. The Center also teaches me Buddhism; enlightens me with new perceptions to my inner self. I learn how to live in a peaceful mind. I have felt less irritated, been happier and more forgiving since I attend The Center's activities.

Chung Tai Zen Center is an asset to the community. I wish more people will join it and benefit from it.

Sincerely,



Anh Wong

San Jose, CA 95133

July 9, 2005

Planning Commission

City of Sunnyvale

456 West Oline Ave

Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project.

File Number: 2005 - 0509

Project Location: 750 East Argues Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Please approve the use permit for the above mentioned project. I have benefited greatly from the activities and events in Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. We need a larger space so that many more people can also benefit in South Bay.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anny Tran

Anny Tran

San Jose CA 95132

July 2, 2005-7-2

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been with Chung Tai Zen Center since last year. I have such great times there. The monk there teaches us lots of Buddhism books. It is basically a lesson of the meaning of the life. The master teaches us how to channel our energy to good cause. Since everything has a cause and a consequence, it is very un-wise to do bad things and think you can get away with it. After going there, I become more actively involved in volunteer activities. I start to think how I can help others instead just my self. Life is good , and god bless Chung Tai Zen Center and its staff

Sincerely,

Annie Huang
Annie Huang

San Jose, CA , 95132

Date 7/4/05

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project.

File Number: 2005-0509

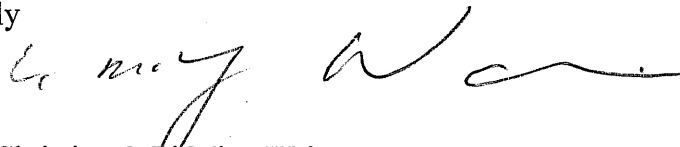
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

This letter is in regards to the building of Chung Tai Zen Center in Sunnyvale. The Bay Area is known for its diversity and multicultural offerings, giving the local community many chances to learn about different things. Since the establishment of the Chung Tai Zen Center, many local residents have been provided with a calm, tranquil and serene place for contemplation and meditation. There are also free meditation classes, which have allowed us the opportunity to reflect and further understand Buddhism. A larger center would enable a greater amount of people to have the chance to find some peace and tranquility amidst the grind of daily life. So I hope we will be able to see that happen.

Thank you!

Sincerely



Name: Christina & Li Ming Wai

Address:

City, State, Zip San Jose CA95133

ATTACHMENT 1 58Page 71 of 133

June 30, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Please grant the approval to have a meditation center at 750 East Arques Avenue.

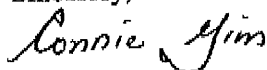
Meditation is beneficiary to City of Sunnyvale.
Scientists study it; doctors recommend it and millions of Americans practise it everyday.

Meditation can release our stresses.
Meditation can lead to a happy and healthy life.

We really need a meditation center.
Please grant the approval.

Thanks in anticipation for your approval

Sincerely,



Connie Yim

San Jose, CA 95131

Date July 8th, 2005

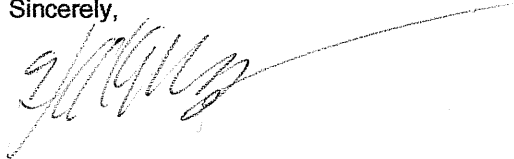
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE : Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project location : 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commisssioners:

I am writing to you to show my support for the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, and their efforts to expand and accommodate their growing audience. The classes they teach there as well as the many invited speakers have drawn many to attend. I hope with this project they will be allowed to do more.

Sincerely,



Hansel Chung

San Jose, CA 95120

July 6th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave
Sunnyvale CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioner:

I am a senior citizen would like to request your valuable time to consider the process of a use permit for the new location of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale located on 750 East Arques Ave Sunnyvale CA 94086.

The Zen center is an important place for me. I can participate the Zen meditation, do the sutra chanting, listen to the explanation of the Buddhism from Shi Fu, and greet my old friends. The Zen center on Fair Oak is a temporary rental place that I always go to. If we can get the new permanent location on East Arques Ave will be an ideal, safe & peaceful place for me to do my activity

Thanks for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Boi Khong
Boi Khong

San Jose CA 95132

June 6th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave
Sunnyvale CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

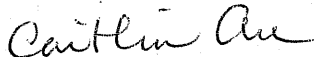
Dear Planning Commissioner:

As a citizen, I urged you to process a use permit for the new location of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale located on 750 East Arques Ave Sunnyvale CA 94086.

"Zen" meditation is a good & healthy practice for all ages – no colors & no religions boundaries. For me as a worker for the Santa-Clara County Social Services Recovery & Legal Services Division working under all kinds of stress, I realized the "Zen" meditation is a good & healthy practice for me to release stress, to refresh a peaceful mind in order to reach an efficient way toward my work duty as well as the living burden. The location in Sunnyvale is available and convenient for me to commute as well as for others from all driving directions.

Please take your valuable time to consider this matter for the public

Sincerely,



Caitlin Au

San Jose CA 95132

ATTACHMENT 1 62Page 75 of 133

Date: 7/10/2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7610

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Argues Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioner,

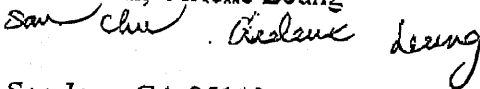
The Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is in the process of applying for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale at the location on Argues Avenue. To facilitate the review process, I'm writing this letter to you in support of this project for the following reasons:

This Zen Center provides various levels of Zen Buddhism and meditation classes in English and Chinese to the public for free, and as a non-profit organization, it really needs support from your commission to continue its service to the community and the people. I have personally benefited from the various classes and activities at the center by gaining a sense of peace, health, and spiritual enlightenment. I feel very strongly that we need the center to continue to provide services to us.

I hope you will understand our needs and can help us by approving the permit. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sam Chen, Arlene Leung



San Jose, CA 95112

6 July 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

To: Planning Commissioner
RE: File No - 2005-0509
Project Location - 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Sir:

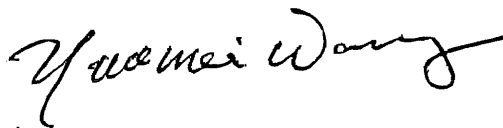
I work at the New World Child Development Center in Sunnyvale as a school teacher. At the end of my workday, after dealing with active toddlers all day, I visit the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale for meditation and relaxation. The center's ~~monks~~ give me guidance on how to handle the pressures of working in the Bay Area. ~~Master~~

Everyone is welcome at the center. The center uses Buddhist principles to guide one's daily life, how to face and resolve life's complex issues. They have a children's center where they teach Chinese culture and values, and a group for teens, where young adults can get together.

I look forward to the opening of the new center on 750 East Arques Avenue. I believe the opening of the center will benefit the city of Sunnyvale and our neighboring cities.

Sincerely,

Yuan-Mei Wang



San Jose, CA 95148

7th July 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale
CA 94086-7619

REF: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

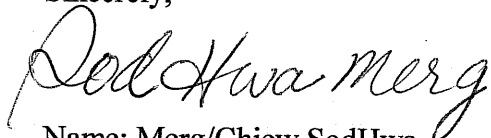
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter in fervent support for the new Chung Tai Zen Center location on East Arques Avenue in Sunnyvale. In seeking wisdom and truth of life, Buddhism has shown me that knowledge and wisdom are within one's own soul. I am taking refuge in its teachings in understanding the laws of life, find peace and harmony from within and harmony all around me, as well as ways to live a meaning life with right thoughts, speech and behaviour.

I am a firm believer that religion is an important aspect in one's life. One is able to attain a sense of spiritual belonging that leads to inner peace. Therefore the permanent establishment of Chung Tai Zen Center on Argues Avenue, not only offers a sanctuary for the believers to continue to practice Buddhism, but it is also a service to the community for anybody who wishes to take refuge in its teachings and by doing good deeds.

Thanking you in advance. Your kind consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Name: Merg/Chiew SodHwa

Address: ?

City/State/Zip: Santa Clara, CA 95054-2121

July 1, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

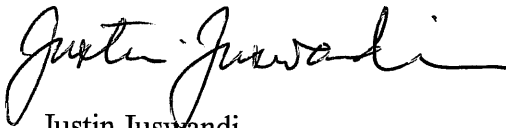
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number : 2005-0509 Project
Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been coming to Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale for more than one year now. Over this time I have benefited so much from learning at Chung Tai Zen Center. Countless people have also benefited as I do.

Since the current location at 1031 North Fair Oaks will be demolished for new housing development, Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale needs to relocate to 750 East Arques Avenue as soon as possible. I would like to ask Planning Commissioners to approve the use permit so Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale can continue to serve many people its community.

Sincerely,



Justin Juswandi

Fremont, CA 94538

July 11, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Your permit is urgently needed and your prompt approval will be greatly appreciated.

Time is running out. We will lose our current rental space by December 2005 due to its conversion to residential area. With your permit approval, ongoing classes and activities may be able to continue.

Money is already spent. Hundreds of our devoted disciples have donated over one million dollars for the purchase and construction of the new location. With your permit approval, thousands of residents in the neighborhood may soon benefit from our expanded facility.

I personally have been enjoying the sweet dew of the Dharma from Chung Tai Chan Monastery U. S. branches since July 2001, first at Buddha Gate in Lafayette and then at Sunnyvale Zen Center. Hopefully more and more people can come to our new Zen Center to learn from Buddha's profound teaching.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wei
Wendy Wei

Fremont, CA 94539

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear planning commissioners:

I am writing to you in support of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale and their effort in applying for a use permit for the new location on East Arques Avenue. I started attending the Beginner Level 1A meditation class in March of this year, and am currently attending the Beginner Level 1B class. During the classes I have learned to meditate and have had the wonderful opportunity to study Buddhism. The meditation I have learned has been very beneficial for me and has helped me to strive to maintain a calm mind and relaxed state of being even in the midst of a stressful everyday life. Through studying the fundamentals of Buddhism, I have developed an increased appreciation for the value of treating others with respect, kindness, and above all, compassion. The benefits I have gained from attending the classes and services at the Chung Tai Zen Center include a greater sense of peace, hope, and faith in humanity. These benefits are available to anyone who is able to come to the Center and spend some time there learning meditation and Buddhism. The Center also has a wonderful sense of community, and everyone I've met there is very kind and respectful.

I urge you to please give every consideration to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale in their endeavor to obtain the use permit for the new location on East Arques Avenue. I feel it will provide a wonderful benefit to the community and help promote peace and fellowship. Thank you for the time to read this letter of support, and thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,



Edward Barragan

Milpitas CA 95035

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Buddhism is the most open-minded religious. It gets along with any other religious and cultures. We all learn to respect everything including other religious, cultures, people, animals, as well as objects. It makes the diversified societies to be more cooperated and peaceful.

Chung Tai Zen Center provides systematic education like college. It opens to anyone and is the best place for learning meditation and Zen. Most of the Buddhism instructors, Monks, and students are highly educated in this Zen center. After learning from the instructors and peers in those Zen classes, we have more peace in mind, in order to bring more peace to the families, communities and work places.

A lot of friends, relatives, and some of us live or work in Sunnyvale also. This Zen center is like our friends and businesses that can help us to know more about Sunnyvale and like this city more and more.

We all pay tax to our cities and States. I wish every city can have nice institutions for their residences. Now, there is an opportunity to Sunnyvale.

After I study in this Zen center, I really appreciate this opportunity. Now, the Sunnyvale residences also have this chance.

Sincerely,

Gloria Waiman Fung

Name GLORIA WAIMAN FUNG

Address

City, State, ZIP MURPITAS, CA 95035

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners,

Buddhism is the most open-minded religious. It gets along with any other religious and cultures. We all learn to respect everything including other religious, cultures, people, animals, as well as objects. It makes the diversified societies to be more cooperated and peaceful.

Chung Tai Zen Center provides systematic education like college. It opens to anyone and is the best place for learning meditation and Zen. Most of the Buddhism instructors, Monks, and students are highly educated in this Zen center. After learning from the instructors and peers in those Zen classes, we have more peace in mind, in order to bring more peace to the families, communities and work places.

A lot of friends, relatives, and some of us live or work in Sunnyvale also. This Zen center is like our friends and businesses that can help us to know more about Sunnyvale and like this city more and more.

We all pay tax to our cities and States. I wish every city can have nice institutions for their residences. Now, there is an opportunity to Sunnyvale.

After I study in this Zen center, I really appreciate this opportunity. Now, the Sunnyvale residences also have this chance.

Sincerely,

D. Tang

Name *Manchuen Dino Tang*

Address

City, State, ZIP *MILPITAS, CA 95035*

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Letters of Support – Campbell, Cupertino,
Los Gatos, Saratoga, Los Altos, Palo Alto, San Mateo,
Stanford, San Francisco, East Bay

June 29, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location : 750 E. Arques Avenue

Dear Sirs and Madams,

Due to my poor English, I really don't know how to put my thought into proper English format.

We really need a place like Zen Center of Sunnyvale. We need a place to learn Buddhism. Buddhism tells us how to be a good person; what is true life meaning; and much much more. Buddhism helps me know how to reduce anger; How to adapt the reality and use the positive way to deal with it.

Center offer classes for the adult and young kids for free. It has provided the spiritual nourishment for countless people. It helps people discover the path to enlightenment. Please log into center's web site (<http://ctzen.org/sunnyvale/>). You will understand more about what center doing. If you have time please drop by any time to current center (1031 North Fair Oaks Ave. Sunnyvale, CA 94089-2101). Master Jian Hu and the other Dharma Masters will be glad to let you understand more about Buddhism and Zen Center.

Please consider to let us have new home at 750 E. Arques Avenue. We really need a place to continue to learn Buddhism and discover the path to enlightenment.

Sincerely,

Yin Fan Wong

Yin Fan Wong

Campbell, CA 95008

6/28/2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

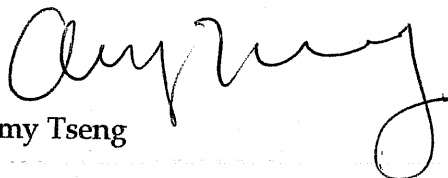
Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST AROUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

In this letter, I would like to say that the coming of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is a wonderful idea. The center will greatly give us, the citizens of San Jose County, a place to enrich our inner self and find a peaceful place in this stressful society.

Sincerely,



Amy Tseng

Cupertino, Ca. 95014

6/28/2005

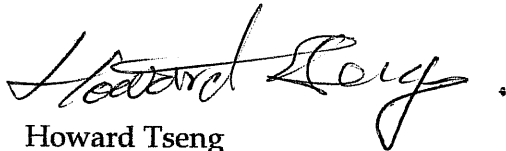
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST AROUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I here would like to express my support of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. I truly believe that the Center will benefit the citizens of not only Sunnyvale, but the neighbor cities such as Cupertino and Santa Clara. The center will provide a calming place for our stressful society.

Sincerely,



Howard Tseng

Cupertino, Ca. 95014

Date: 7/8/05

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7610

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST AROUES AVENUE

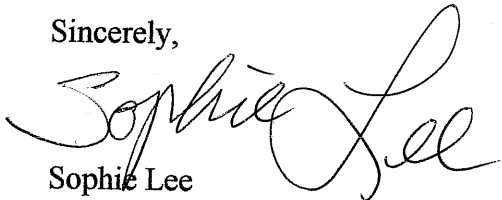
Dear Planning Commissioner,

The Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is in the process of applying for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale at the location on Arques Avenue. To facilitate the review process, I am writing this letter to you in support of this project for the following reasons:

This Zen Center provides various levels of Zen Buddhism and Meditation classes in English and Chinese to the public for free. I have been participating in their classes 3 times a week since last year. I have benefited from these classes by gaining a sense of peace, health, and purity. Therefore I feel strongly that we need this service at the Center.

I hope you understand our needs and can help us achieve our dreams. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sophie Lee

Cupertino, Ca 95014

Subject: Planning Commission - City of Sunnyvale
From: "Lars Graefe"
Date: Fri, 29 Jul 2005 07:40:51 -0700
To: <sunnyvale@ctzen.org>

To the Planning Commission of the City of Sunnyvale,

Dear Sirs,

I'm writing you in regards to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, or to be more specific in regards to its future. Based on my and my fiancée personal experience I would like to urge you to ensure that this center continuous to enrich the lives of people in Sunnyvale and its surrounding cities. In a time of increased fear and anxiety both from international developments as well as increasing pressure from work, it is essential to the mental and spiritual health of a community to find refuge in religious institutions like this. It is important to note though, that the Zen Center is much more than just a religious place. Its staff helps everyday people to find peaceful and effective means to cope with stress and anxiety in our lives in a constructive and positive way. Master Jian Hu, who among other things teaches Wednesday classes on Meditation and Buddhism, makes it especially easy for us to understand these approaches, since he is a native English speaker and always finds to right words to convey the Buddhist concepts, that come from cultures much different than ours.

My fiancée and I just went through a time of personal loss and could experience ourselves how much some of the simple things that we have learned at the Zen Center enriched our life's and the lives of our loved ones.

Furthermore I wanted to point out that in the 12 months that I have visited the center I have seen a continuous rise in interest, both from people attending the same classes as I, as well as in conversations at the grocery store etc. It really does seem like the Zen Center is addressing a need that people have in this community.

Thank you for considering my humble opinion.

Best regards,

Lars Graefe

Director, Business Development

Cupertino, CA 95014

29th June 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale
CA 94086-7619

REF: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

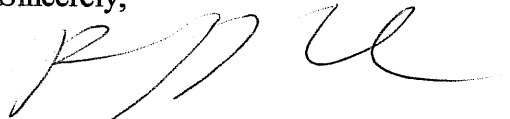
Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter in earnest support for the permit application pertaining to the abovementioned project. As a follower of the Buddhist religion, I have gained valuable knowledge about oneself, life as is and the environment in which we live in. Buddhism provides a deep spiritual refuge for all walks of life and it also teaches how people could coexist, without boundaries, in harmony and maintaining peace all around.

Your kind consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated. The establishment of Chung Tai Zen Center on the new location is a positive and fruitful community service, as well as providing a permanent home to those who wish to continue to spread the good deeds of Buddhism.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Name: Karen Chan

Address:

City/State/Zip:

July 17, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

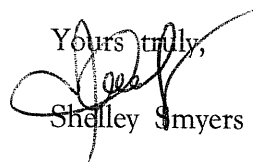
Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As a very enthusiastic supporter of the Chung Tai Zen Center, I drive 25 miles one-way each week to hear the enlightened and uplifting teachings of Venerable Jian Hu. He and his staffers work tirelessly and in the true spirit of community to provide a much-needed spiritual sanctuary in the frenzied pace and growing materialism and ostentation characterized by Silicon Valley. Together, they work to keep the Zen Center accessible to all who walk through their doors, and by offering an amazing schedule of free classes and seminars for both adults and children.

Students and practitioners come from far and wide to hear the Venerable Jian Hu who has built a formidable following based on his wisdom, warmth, and generosity. Anybody who attends the Center quickly realizes his cross-age as well as cross-cultural appeal. His further uniqueness arises from his broad perspective having participated previously in the high tech work sector. He has established a very unique community and we are blessed to have him here in our midst. Your support of the Center will keep Sunnyvale high on the list of places where diversity and understanding are not simply studied, but practiced.

In the spirit of the Dalai Lama, Jian Hu and the CT Zen Center compassionately embrace everybody in the community. The well-known fundamental Buddhist teachings that advocate acceptance, tolerance, and cooperation are what we need more of, now more than ever. Please let us work together to ensure that the Zen Center and its leaders have a proper new home. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Shelley Smyers

Shelley & Scott Smyers

Los Gatos, CA 95030

David Yin

Saratoga, CA 95070

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

July 14, 2005

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

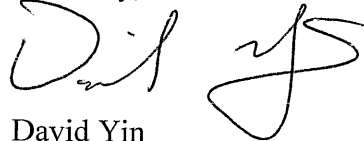
The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen Center to a larger location at 750 East Arques Avenue.

I grew up attending both the elementary and high schools in Saratoga. Recently, I graduated from Stanford University where I served as the president of the Buddhist Community at Stanford (BCAS). BCAS is an ecumenical Buddhist student group that tries to be an umbrella group for many Buddhist organizations in the area. We have invited Venerable Jian Hu, the abbot of the Zen Center, to come to Stanford to give talks for BCAS. He has also come to speak at Stanford for the "Buddhism in the Modern World" series which is jointly sponsored by the Stanford Center for Buddhist Studies, the Buddhist Community at Stanford, and Office for Religious Life. Both of these events were well attended and received.

Given his background as a graduate of Caltech and later UC San Diego, he can speak in a way that relates to the students quite easily. Topics like stress in school, the value of meditation, and the scientific inquiry come to life because he speaks from his own experience. As a religious studies graduate from Stanford, I can see how important it is given our modern age of globalization and religious pluralism for religious leaders to be in contact with academia and other religions. I am very happy to see Venerable Jian Hu who is bringing many different academic and religious disciplines together in a positive way.

Thank you so much for your dedication serving the community as the Planning Commissioners. Your consideration for approving the relocation of Chung Tai Zen Center is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


David Yin

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been a resident of the South Bay Area for the past 25 years. I have been looking for a source of spiritual guidance for a long time, and last year I discovered the Chung Tai Zen Center. Being introduced to this Center has changed my life, and thus I would like to beseech you in allowing the Center to be approved for a permanent residence in Sunnyvale.

The Chung Tai Zen Center offers a way to attain tranquility for stressed and busy Silicon Valley residents of all races. For me personally, I have sought their teachings and meditation sessions as a way to find some calm in the turbulent high-tech lifestyle of the Valley. Through their teachings I have achieved a sense of spiritual ease, improved health, and family harmony. Furthermore, the friends that I have made from my interactions at this Center have opened my eyes to other cultures and lifestyles that I had not known before.

The Zen Center has provided invaluable services for me and for the community. For the sake of promoting community in the Sunnyvale area, please grant the application for monastery use.

Sincerely,


Mei-Ying Chang

Saratoga, CA 95070

July 5, 2005

**Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619**

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,

File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I fully support the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. The Zen center has provided myself and many, many others with a place to meditate, learn and improve ourselves. It facilitates people to find peace and meaning in themselves and as more people practice, the society will surely be a better place and all of our communities benefit.

The approval of the Zen Center will also demonstrate the effort of the City of Sunnyvale to a diversified community where all races and religions are welcome and exist in harmony. Therefore I strongly urge the Planning Commission to grant the permit to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,



Ning Fong

Saratoga, CA 95070

July 10, 2005

ATTACHMENT I 79
Page 101 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arroyo Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been a nurse working in the nursing home for one year. Everyday I take care of patients who are suffering from dementia, bipolar behavior, depression, Schizophrenia and schizophrenia.

Since I have to take care of people with mental disorder, I must be mentally fit to give them the best possible care. I have been attending the class at Zen Center since August last year, and I learned to be more patient and compassionate. In addition, I have also learned how to deal with patients more wisely.

Please grant our new Zen Center the use permit.

Sincerely

THEBESA YANG

Saratoga, CA 95070

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number : 2005-0509
Project Location 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I'm pleased to write this letter to support and encouragement to establish zen center in Sunnyvale, the Buddhism zen practice organization originate funded from Chung Tai Buddhism zen temple in Taiwan since 1987.

Having the healthy mind for life is important personal issue for me. Buddhism zen practice gave me a chance to learn how peaceful mind can easily to be reached by meditation, how important use the peaceful mind to work with others in the society. It is a partnership between individuals, families and community-based organization that work together to make our life and society better.

I wish you the best success in your organization development.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Lee

Foster City, CA 94404

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305-2130

ATTACHMENT 1 88
Page 103 of 122

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
Jordan Hall, Bldg. 420

Natalia Mislavsky
Phone:

July 10, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, file Number: 2005-0509
Project Location : 750 East Arques Avenue


Dear Planning Commissioners:

As a researcher trained in experimental psychology at Stanford University, I can attest to the rapid increase in scientific study of meditation at many leading research Universities in the US, including Stanford. Many benefits of meditation are being revealed by studies focusing on both mental and emotional processes in long-term meditation practitioners as well as positive changes in daily well-being gained by beginner meditators observed during throughout and after completion of meditation training. Both sorts of studies demonstrate benefits such as reduced stress, better attentional functioning, cardiovascular and endocrine systems benefits and more, experienced by the practitioners.

The Chung Tai Zen Center offers a unique program of everyday instruction that combines meditation practice, lecture and services. Venerable Jian Hu Shifu, who holds a Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from University of California, San Diego draws on his perspectives as a scientists, contemplative artist and Buddhist scholar, and provides unique teaching of the highest caliber. It is no surprise that Shifu's teaching attracted many local scientists and engineers and it is hard to find a more appropriate teacher to the Silicon Valley population—we are very fortunate!

I urge you to give your full support to the growth of this center, the community really appreciates it and the rapid growth is the testament to both the Centers quality and the need in the community for what the center has to offer. Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you have any further questions.

Sincerely,


Natalia Mislavsky,
Researcher, Stanford University

MedioStream, Inc.
a new world of sight and sound

4962 EL CAMINO REAL, STE 201
LOS ALTOS, CA 94022

650 625.9900 fax

info@mediostream.com
www.mediostream.com

July 7th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Av.
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. File #2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Av.

Dear Planning Commissioners,

As a financing officer of a small software company here in the Silicon Valley, I have my share of stress and difficulties facing the down situation since the year 2000-2001.

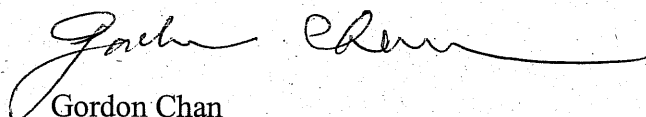
I am so grateful that we have the Zen Center here in Sunnyvale. The teaching of the Zen Masters and the practice of meditation have helped me tremendously in dealing with some of the toughest situations in my life. People who know me also think I am kinder, more patient. Some even think I look younger. Even though I think they are just being nice.

As more and more people seek the peace and wisdom from the Zen Center, we are running out of room fast. And the lack of ability to hold lengthy meditation sessions is a big draw back.

I wish a fully functional new center could be quickly established at the location. This will provide a true haven for the overworked, stressed out professionals here in the valley.

Thank you for your kind considerations.

Sincerely


Gordon Chan

July 10, 2005

ATTACHMENT I 90
Page 105 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, Ca. 94086

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project.
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arroyo Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

On the past few months, I have learned, at this Zen Center, harmony with nature, peace with my fellowman and lastly have found peace within myself.

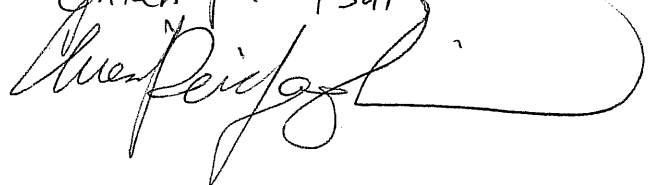
I believe in the same way, the members of this community will also benefit from this Zen Center.

As a result this Zen Center has a undeniable contribution to this community.

I strongly wish for the continued existence of this Zen Center. Thank for your time in and considering our thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,
Chien-Pai Tsai

Palo Alto, CA 94306



Date: July 4, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Subject: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

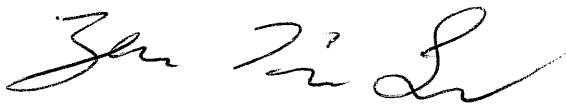
I am writing to you to express my strong support for the subject expansion project and to solicit your support for the project as well.

Although a residence of Palo Alto, I have been employed and conducting most of my businesses in Sunnyvale. I had the great opportunity to attend many of the classes offered by the Zen Center at their current location. The teaching and the quality of their classes have not only benefited me, my family and many of my friends, but the community as a whole. I can attest to the overwhelming demand for Buddhism teaching in this high-stress Silicon Valley.

So that Chung Tai Zen Center can expand to benefit more people and thus help to create peace and harmony for the community, I sincerely urge you to approve the project.

Thank you in advance for your support of a worthy cause.

Sincerely,



Lu Yen Tin

Palo Alto, CA 94306

San Mateo, CA 94402

July 7, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 W. Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Reference: File Number: 2005-0509, Chung Tai Zen Center

Dear Planning Commissioners:

The Zen Center is a very important part of my life. The proposed relocation of the Zen Center to a larger building at 570 E. Arques Ave. is a very important step for us because the site of our current facility is now scheduled for residential development.

By approving this project, you will assure us of having a Zen Center to continue our study.

Thank you,



Maydree Laidley

San Mateo, CA 94402

July 7, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 W. Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

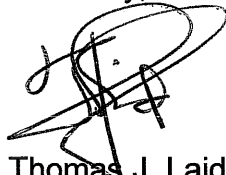
Reference: File Number: 2005-0509, Chung Tai Zen Center

Dear Planning Commissioners:

As you may know, there is an urgent need to find a new home for our Zen Center. The planned improvements for the proposed new location at 570 E. Arques Ave. ⁷⁵⁰ would make the new Center an asset to the neighborhood as well as to Sunnyvale.

I have been a Zen practitioner at Chung Tai since it first opened in Sunnyvale during the 1st quarter of 2004. I urge the commission to approve this project so we can continue our study.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Laidley

07/09/2005

ATTACHMENT T
Page 109 of 133 94

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File number = 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I, Marowen Ng, a patron of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, fully support the granting for a permit for a new location for the zen center. Its presence in the city of Sunnyvale will contribute to the diversity of the city besides providing a place for Bay Area residents to learn about Buddhism.

Sincerely,

MAROWEN NG

Stanford, CA 94305

July 4th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: CHUNG TAI ZEN CENTER OF SUNNYVALE PROJECT, NUMBER: 2005-0509
PROJECT LOCATION: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

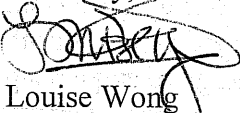
I am a student of the Chung Tai Zen Center and am writing to support the Zen Center's application for a permit from the City of Sunnyvale for the new location on Arques Avenue. I hope The Commissioners' Office will take into consideration how each ordinary citizen can benefit from the teaching of the Zen Center and ultimately improve our quality of life.

I have been visiting the Chung Tai Zen Center since 2004. Through their meditation workshop and lecture sessions, I have learnt a great deal in managing stress and conflicts from work and home. The Zen Center provides me with a friendly and compassionate avenue to attain mental calmness and inner peace; and to share my thoughts and frustrations by learning how to meditate and to discuss among fellow students various difficult situations that we encounter through out our daily life. The teaching as well as the exchange of experience helped me find a better way to deal with challenging questions and people. As a result, I am a happier person and it gradually changes how I view crisis in life. My new attitudes and behavior also affects those that are close to me.

The Zen Center has made tremendous difference in my life and so many other students and followers of our great Zen Master Jian Hu. I hope my personal experiences with the Zen Center serves as a single example of hundreds of students that have made similar gains from being a member of this caring and intellectual community.

Please take into consideration how much the Zen Center is serving the community of not only the City of Sunnyvale but also the greater bay area of N. California. The approval of the Zen Center's application for a permit from the City of Sunnyvale is imperative to the well being of its members and the city. The Zen Center's application of a permit has 100% of my support.

Sincerely,

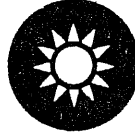


Louise Wong

San Francisco, CA 94122

ATTACHMENT I (CONTINUED)

ADDITIONAL LETTERS RECEIVED



駐舊金山台北經濟文化辦事處
**TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
IN SAN FRANCISCO**

555 MONTGOMERY STREET, SUITE 501
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 U.S.A.
TEL: (415) 362-7680 FAX: (415) 362-5382

July 22, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

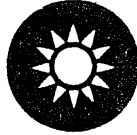
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
Project File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Commissioners,

This Mission, serves as *de facto* Consulate-General of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the Northern California, would like to invite your favorable consideration to the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale to 750 East Arques Avenue in order to better serve people in Sunnyvale.

While the Chan (Zen) Buddhism has been in the integral part of Asian cultures (including China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, etc.) for over 2,500 years, it also attracts a great number of people worldwide in recent years. Being proud of the diversity of culture in this global village, the United States, especially the Great State of California, has successfully accommodated different people, believing and religions. Freedom and human right thus find their home, the best home to settle.

Chung Tai Zen Center, serving people in Sunnyvale for years, has become a famous sign and site for peace, relief and comfort. People in the vicinity also benefited. In order to better serve the people in the community, the Center is obliged with a critical relocation.



駐舊金山台北經濟文化辦事處
TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
IN SAN FRANCISCO

555 MONTGOMERY STREET, SUITE 501
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 U.S.A.
TEL: (415) 362-7680 FAX: (415) 362-5382

With a commitment to serve, I trust that the Center is eager to repay the courtesy and harmony to the community. With my best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Mark W.P. Liao
Director General

C.C.: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

Subject: support letter c/o Master Jian Jian

From: "

Date: Sat, 9 Jul 2005 08:11:01 -0700

To: <sunnyvale@ctzen.org>

In March 2004 when Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale, on N.Fair Oaks Avenue, opened, it was clear from the onset the facility was not adequate to accommodate the numbers of people attending the lectures and events held there.

The benevolence and virtue exemplified by Venerable Jian Hu, abbot, and the other Dharma Masters, makes them highly respected and very approachable. People from all over the Bay Area flock to Sunnyvale to experience the teachings.

Everyone, every community, values from the teachings of profound truth, validation of one true self, compassion for all living beings, an end to suffering and the source of true happiness.

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is a beacon of light changing the world for the good. It deserves a larger, more adequate facility to operate from.

Knowing the NEW facility IS AN ASSET to Sunnyvale, I respectfully thank you.

Darlene (Chuan Ling) Cioffi-Pangilla
Disciple

Vicky Cheung
100 Chestnut Street
Alameda, CA 94502

July 3, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

I am writing to voice my appreciation and support to the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale and sincerely ask you to grant the permit for its operation at the new location.

I have been attending meditation and Buddhism classes at the Zen Center since last July. Never have I experienced such serenity and bliss before. With calmness, wisdom and great compassion, the Dharma Masters have tirelessly constructed a "pure land" in the City of Sunnyvale. The Zen Center is a place of harmony and tranquility, reflecting the Buddha's teachings of peace, kindness, tolerance, truthfulness and respect for all. There is also great emphasis on protecting the environment and making charitable contributions to the community. Citizens who embrace such ideals and virtues will surely make the city a safe and harmonious place to live.

Going to the Zen Center has provided me with the opportunity to get to know the fine city of Sunnyvale which is 40 miles away from my home in Alameda. I have had great dining and grocery-shopping experiences here. I feel comfortable with the palpable sense of diversity and tolerance in this City. With the most honorable intention to bring liberation and happiness to all, the Chung Tai Zen Center will definitely make the City of Sunnyvale an even better place.

Thank you and best wishes!

Sincerely,



July, 6th, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File
Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners,

I am writing to you to express my support regarding the process of applying for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale for Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. Since Chung Tai Zen Center started in Sunnyvale in 2004, many classes, workshops and ceremonies have been held. Zen Buddhism classes let me learn how to meditate well and also learn to be mindful. I also get lot of knowledge about Buddhism from the Sutra study classes and know how to overcome the stress from my busy schedules and the interaction with my family and coworkers. I can see the other people who come to Zen Center also get the same benefits as mine. Everyone in the Zen Center is extremely helpful, and they support us to work towards achieving happiness. Having been at the Zen Center for the last 16 months, our lives have undergone a total change and we are so much happier, contented and most importantly, able to apply all the teachings from Buddhism to change our lives. So, I would like to encourage you to facilitate the review process and help the Zen Center to get the permit for its new location. Faster the Zen Center moves to new location, more people can get their happiness!

Thank you very much

Sincerely

Rubee Chang

Rubee Chang 07/06/2005

Castro Valley, CA 94552

ATTACHMENT T ¹⁰⁰Page 117 of 133

Date: 7/10/2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7610

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project. File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Argues Avenue


Dear Planning Commissioner,

The Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale is in the process of applying for a use permit from the City of Sunnyvale at the location on Argues Avenue. To facilitate the review process, I'm writing this letter to you in support of this project for the following reasons:

This Zen Center provides various levels of Zen Buddhism and meditation classes in English and Chinese to the public for free, and as a non-profit organization, it really needs support from your commission to continue its service to the community and the people. I have personally benefited from the various classes and activities at the center by gaining a sense of peace, health, and spiritual enlightenment. I feel very strongly that we need the center to continue to provide services to us.

I hope you will understand our needs and can help us by approving the permit. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Helen Chen, Johnny H. Chen

Hayward, CA 94542


Jacky Chong

San Jose, CA 95112


Angela Chen

Milpitas, CA 95035


May Sun, John Sun

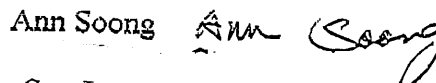
San Leandro, CA 94579


Min-Tien Liang, You-Hsien Liang

Hayward, CA 94541


Jocelyn Liu


Foster City, CA 94404


Ann Soong

San Jose, CA 95119

July 5, 2005

City of Sunnyvale
Planning Department
Sunnyvale, California

Subject: Zen Center Application at 750 Arques, Sunnyvale, California

Dear Sir or Madam:

The purpose of this letter is to support the opening of the Zen Center's application for their new property.

Under the guidance of Master Jian Hu, I have become a student of the Buddha's teachings which instill wisdom, understanding and compassion for all living things. These understandings, along with meditation, have helped me achieve peace of mind.

During my time as a Buddhist, I have met many outstanding people, all of whom can enhance and enrich your beautiful city. How can one have more desirable neighbors?

I am forever indebted to the Chung Tai Masters for enriching my life and pointing me in the right direction and I wish others to benefit from this supportive environment.

Sincerely,

Doraya W. Goeppert

Doraya W. Goeppert

Lafayette CA 94549

Subject: zoning letter
From: [redacted]
Date: Fri, 15 Jul 2005 13:45:41 EDT
To: sunnyvale@ctzen.org

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No.
2005-0509
Project Location: 750 E. Arques Ave.

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have known and worked with the Venerable Jian Hu and other monks at the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale since 2001 when they were in Lafayette, California, starting the Buddhagate Monastery.

It was a personal privilege to receive first hand teachings on the basics of Buddhism and meditation from Ven. Jian Hu after many years of reading about Buddhism. Although I practice Christianity in the United Church of Christ at Hillcrest Congregational Church in Pleasant Hill and well versed in and follow a Christian contemplative spiritual path (prayer, meditation, retreats) Buddhism as explained by Ven. Jian Hu has helped clarify my personal understanding of life, human struggles. Most importantly, I have a greater sense of the path of peace and harmony and compassion that is common to both religion's traditions. This path, I am convinced, is one that needs to be learned and traveled by more people in our war torn, violent world regardless of religious affiliation.

It was my privilege to work with my pastor, the Reverend Dr. William Holliday and Venerable Jian Hu in providing a four part series on Buddhism and Christianity to the public in 2004. It was well received and participants came from many different denominations, churches and from the local Buddhist population. All of us learned important things about both religions that can be applied to making everyday life worth living and our human situation better.

The monks exemplify the virtues of Buddhism as they extend its teachings to both Chinese speaking folks and English only folks like myself here in America. Their activities are family oriented, open to anyone, young or old, who wishes to participate, learn and grow. That they are ready to expand after a few short years in Sunnyvale tells me that something good is going on, attracting people to a wonderful and helpful way of living life.

Their monastery in Lafayette and the Zen Center in Sunnyvale are clean, neat, orderly, and beautiful--islands of tranquility in a busy world. The current center may be modest and plain on the outside but it is exquisitely peaceful and hospitable on the inside. Monks and lay folk show in many ways that they want to leave a place better, more attractive for having been there as grounds and interiors are carefully cultivated for beauty and serenity. This is but an outward manifestation of their inner personal cultivation of peace and compassion.

I believe that their presence in an industrial zone near residential would be an asset, not a liability to the area and to residents of Sunnyvale as the monks continue to provide necessary teachings on Buddhism and offer wonderful resources for living to folks in the multi-cultural Bay Area.

Sunnyvale can rightly be proud of having the Chung Tai Zen Center present in their city and I recommend approval of their petition for "religious assembly use" under the above file number.

....

Sincerely,

Suzanne Mittica
Adult Education Coordinator
Hillcrest Congregational Church, UCC
404 Gregory Lane

Pleasant Hill, California

Home: :
Concord, California 94518
655 333 1050

July 11, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

Re: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File #: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Since I began my studies of Buddhism and attending the Zen Center of Sunnyvale, my quality, ethics and outlook towards my daily work and life have significantly improved in the past year. This place, its people and what they represent have helped myself and many other find the beauty in life and our work.

The Silicon Valley is about both: work and living a good quality life. This is what brought me here. The existing Zen Center and the proposed new location will act and give strength and support to the Valley's growth in the years to come and for our future generations that will live and work in this area. This project can only offer good things to the future of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely,



Damon P. Manni

San Ramon, CA 94582

Hillcrest Congregational Church

404 Gregory Lane • Pleasant Hill, California 94523

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE REV. DR. WILLIAM G. HOLLIDAY
THE REV. LAURIE MANNING
Associate Minister
THE REV. ROBERT E. BENCH
Pastor Emeritus

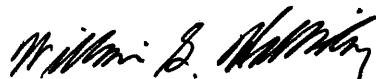
July 25, 2005

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It is my privilege to send to you this letter of support for the Sunnyvale Zen Center (also known as the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File No. 2005-0509). I have known the Ven. Master Jian Hu for a number of years. We began our friendship when he was the abbot of Buddha Gate Monastery in Lafayette. At that time, we did a series of Buddhist-Christian dialogues for the churches in our community and worked together on the Interfaith Council. My personal feeling is that you could not have a finer neighbor than Master Jian Hu and the religious community that he leads. As a matter of fact, these people could only be an asset to the neighborhood.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me here at Hillcrest Congregational Church.

Very sincerely,



William G. Holliday, Ph.D., D.Min.
Senior Minister

cc: Master Jian Hu

*copy
Original sent to
Planning Commission
in 7/25.*



ATTACHMENT I
Page 123 of 133
RECEIVED

JUL 25 2005

駐舊金山台北經濟文化辦事處 PLANNING DIVISION
TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
IN SAN FRANCISCO

555 MONTGOMERY STREET, SUITE 501
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 U.S.A.
TEL: (415) 362-7680 FAX: (415) 362-5382

July 22, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale
Project File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Commissioners,

This Mission, serves as *de facto* Consulate-General of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the Northern California, would like to invite your favorable consideration to the relocation of the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale to 750 East Arques Avenue in order to better serve people in Sunnyvale.

While the Chan (Zen) Buddhism has been in the integral part of Asian cultures (including China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, etc.) for over 2,500 years, it also attracts a great number of people worldwide in recent years. Being proud of the diversity of culture in this global village, the United States, especially the Great State of California, has successfully accommodated different people, believing and religions. Freedom and human right thus find their home, the best home to settle.

Chung Tai Zen Center, serving people in Sunnyvale for years, has become a famous sign and site for peace, relief and comfort. People in the vicinity also benefited. In order to better serve the people in the community, the Center is obliged with a critical relocation.



駐舊金山台北經濟文化辦事處
**TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE
IN SAN FRANCISCO**

555 MONTGOMERY STREET, SUITE 501
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 U.S.A.
TEL: (415) 362-7680 FAX: (415) 362-5382

With a commitment to serve, I trust that the Center is eager to repay the courtesy and harmony to the community. With my best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark W.P. Liao".

Mark W.P. Liao
Director General

C.C.: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2005

July 6, 2005

PLANNING DIVISION

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 95086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project
File #: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners,

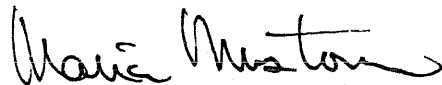
I'm writing to encourage you to approve the project noted above, planned by the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

I attend weekly classes at the Zen Center's current location on Fair Oaks Avenue, and can assure you that this organization is very respectful of others and would be an asset to the neighborhood in which they've requested to relocate.

The contribution which the Zen Center makes to communities in and around Sunnyvale is important. In this, my first exposure to Buddhism, I've found a life-changing experience in the Chung Tai Center's welcoming and calming atmosphere, free instruction, free lending library, patience, tolerance, and the absence of pressure to become "converted" to Buddhism. This tone is always present; in one-on-one conversations, when responding to challenging questions, and when compared to other religious beliefs.

This Zen Center is a rare asset to have in any community. In many ways Sunnyvale, Milpitas, Santa Clara, and San Jose serve the same population. As a San Jose resident, I cannot call upon you as my governmental representative to support the Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale's request to move forward with relocating to the East Arques Avenue location. As a grateful neighbor, however, I ask that you allow this generous organization to continue to provide their services to people in the bay area from the proposed location in your city.

Sincerely,



Maria Mustonen

San Jose, CA 95116

cc: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale

July 9, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RECEIVED
JUL 14 2005
PLANNING DIVISION

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project,
File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Please approve the use permit for the above mentioned project. I have benefited greatly from the activities and events in Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. We need a larger space so that many more people can also benefit in South Bay.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine Tam

Christine Tam

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94121

Annie Moy

San Francisco, CA 94118

July 3, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RECEIVED
JUL 07 2005
PLANNING DIVISION

Re: **Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File #: 2005-0509**
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to show my support in this plan. Through my own practice with this organization, I achieved inner peace and happiness. This center had benefited those who came in search for spiritual advancement and stress reduction and I am sure they will continue to do more in the future with a larger and newer facility .

Sincerely,



Annie Moy

San Francisco, CA 94118

July 3, 2005

RECEIVED

JUL 07 2005

ATTACHMENT I
Page 128 of 133

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

PLANNING DIVISION

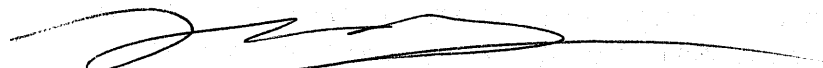
RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am very happy to know that Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale will have its own place to provide Zen classes and meditation after it receives your use permit. It will be great if you process the permit as soon as possible. I have been attending the Zen class and mediation since its grand opening last year. Through those Zen classes, I have been learning the true meaning of life; through the meditation, I have practiced peace of mind. I have been benefited from all learning and practice I got from Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. I believe that more and more people can be benefited from its classes and service once Chung Tai Zen Center has its own larger place.

Your sincere consideration of giving the use permit to Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale will be highly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Rong (Rebecca) Hua

San Jose, CA 95129

JUL 08 2005

PLANNING DIVISION

July 8, 2005

Planning Committee

City of Sunnyvale

456 West Olive Avenue

Sunnyvale, CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509

Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

It is my greatest delight to share my thoughts with you regarding the experiences I had with the Chung Tai Zen Center. I would like to call for your support to its new location at 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE in Sunnyvale.


I have never written any support letter before; however, I feel I am obligated to write this one. Just recently my friend introduced me to the Chung Tai Zen Center in Sunnyvale, after visiting the center for a few times, I was amazed by the peaceful settings and the quality functions that Zen Center provides.

Buddha once used an analogy to explain how rare and precious it is for a person to encounter Dharma--the teaching set forth by the Buddhas as a way to enlightenment. The analogy goes like this: "A blind sea turtle only floats above the sea once every hundred years; in order to survive, the turtle needs to find a floating wood to hang on to, in addition, there needs to be a hole in the wood, through which the turtle could stick his head out to the air. The odds for the sea turtle to find that piece of wood, is like a person who encounters Dharma."

The Chung Tai Zen Center teaches Dharma regardless of one's gender, age, and status. For example, the Zen Center has a weekly youth program where children under 16 could learn how to meditate from trained masters, they will have fieldtrips to the local temple where they could learn the history of different Buddhas and stories how they became enlightened, and the procedures and instruments administered during a formal service.

What a blessing to have a center like this in Sunnyvale! With its new location, the center will have better facilities to host more programs with different emphasis, the impact to the community is far-reaching; the well being of the community is at your discretion. I sincerely urge you to support its relocation so that the Chung Tai Zen Center can service the community even better. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Hsiang-chen Chu

July 6, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale
CA 94086-7619

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2005

PLANNING DIVISION

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale opened its doors to the public a year ago. I have been attending classes there since the very beginning and can testify that the teachings there greatly enlightened my life and helped me through some of the very dark days of being one of the hundred of thousands who lost their jobs during the dot come bust.

I am not a religious person and I still remain an un-religious person after one year with the Zen Center. There has never been pressure for anyone to take their point of view. The Zen Center taught me the deeper meanings of life. How to prioritize what is important in my life. How to live a more balanced life. How to co-exists with others. Are these not what our society need these days?

It is great news that the Center will be expanding and more people will be able to share hearing the same good principles of life that has helped me along when I needed help. Silicon Valley is the most culturally diversified place in the US. We have benefited greatly from drawing in the best from different countries and cultures. The expansion plan of the Zen Center is demonstrating the need of the people here. Your early approval of the new site would be most appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kitty Kwan

San Jose, CA 95132

RECEIVED

JUL 08 2005

PLANNING DIVISION

ATTACHMENT I

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July 6, 2005

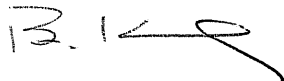
Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale
CA 94086-7619

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 EAST ARQUES AVENUE

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I have been taking meditation classes at Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale for about a year. I learnt to meditate and my blood pressure came down naturally. I find inner peace each time I meditated and this helps to improve quality of life for me. I am happy to hear that the Zen Center will be expanding so that more classes will be offered to those who need it. Your approval of the new site would be most appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Blanche Kung

San Jose, CA 95132

ATTACHMENT I

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July 18, 2005

Planning Commission
City of Sunnyvale
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, Ca 94086-7619

RECEIVED

JUL 22 2005

RE: Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale Project, File Number: 2005-0509
Project Location: 750 East Arques Avenue

PLANNING DIVISION

Dear Planning Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to support the establishment of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale. I believe it is a great asset to the city of Sunnyvale.

I obtained a Ph.D. degree from the Department of Chemistry of University of California at Berkeley in 1971 and retired from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 2001.

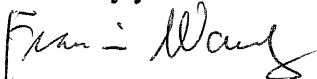
The main reason for me to retire from a "great job" is to study Buddhism. In 2000, I met Venerable Master Jain Hu when he was the abbot of Buddha Gate Monastery at Lafayette, California, the first Chung Tai Zen Center in America. At Buddha Gate, I attended a series of classes of Meditation and Buddhism that taught by Master Jain Hu. The teaching started with the introduction of Buddhism and Meditation. Gradually, it led us to more advanced Buddhism. Buddhism is broad and deep, and difficult to grasp the profound meaning. I think that the classes are perhaps the best way of teaching Buddhism to a beginner. All the classes given by Chung Tai Zen Centers are free of charge.

History has shown that Buddhism is among the most peaceful religions and there has never been a war between Buddhist and followers of other religion. The foundation of Buddhism is causality. You are responsible for what have happened to you. The causes you planted will bring the consequence to you. The truth in Buddhism that most attractive to me is I can prove all the truths stated by Sakyamuni Buddha, the Prophet of Buddhism, just like I can prove the truth in Relativity stated by Einstein. Clearly to me, Buddhism is not superstitious. I have become a happier person because I have learned to let go "most" vexations that used to bother me.

I have also observed the very simple monastic life of all the monks and nuns from Chung Tai Zen Centers. In addition they receive no pay by any means.

Having a place to learn "true" Buddhism from well educated Masters is a great asset for any city. I sincerely hope the city of Sunnyvale will approve the establishment of Chung Tai Zen Center of Sunnyvale.

Sincerely yours



Francis T. Wang

Sunnyvale, CA 94526

Jessica Tong

San Jose, CA 95131

June 22, 2005

City of Sunnyvale
Planning Commission
Attention: Jamie McCloud
P.O. Box 3707
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-3707

ATTACHMENT I

Page 133 of 133

RECEIVED
JUN 23 2005
PLANNING DIVISION

Re: Zen Center of Sunnyvale New Facility Building Zoning Change

Dear Ms. McCloud,

I've been a student of Zen Center of Sunnyvale for the last 6-7 months. During this short time, I have gained a tremendous benefits and insights on living a healthier and happier life.

The masters in this Zen Center teach us the various methods of meditation. Through these meditation methods, I learn how to calm and control my mind, how to be self-aware of my body and mind as well as the environment. Now, my mind is so peaceful and clear that I'm able to be more effectively in managing everything, including any stress and obstacle. They also teach us be compassionate and selflessness to all sentient beings.

I'm very grateful for the opportunity to learn from the Zen Center. I hope more people will able to benefit from this meditation practice to gain wisdom and a peace of mind. Especially, in today's hi-tech stressful and demanding environment, we need more mental and spiritual practice places, such as, the Zen Center, to help improve the quality of lives for the residents in the city and surrounding the bay area.

I feel this is very special that The Zen Center is trying to expand its facility in the Sunnyvale, to help more local community residents and people around the bay area in meditation practice. More happy people live in the city of Sunnyvale, the better is the image of the city. I strongly wish that the city of Sunnyvale will take this great opportunity to keep this wonderful organization by allowing the change of the building zoning.

Yours truly,



Jessica Tong